FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 JULY 1984

Gulf Conflict

Military Developments — The Iraqi Air Force "effectively and accurately" hit a "very large maritime target" near Khark Island on 19 July, according to a military spokesman cited by Baghdad Voice of the Masses Radio. Meanwhile, an Iranian military spokesman denied an Iraqi claim that Iran shelled two Iraqi cities, IRNA reported. One military communique cited by INA had reported that Iranian artillery shelled Tawilah on 15 July, while another military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio claimed that Shandri was shelled the following day.

In a separate development, Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi warned that if Iraq were to renew chemical attacks, Iran would "exploit every possible means" to deal a counter blow, IRNA reported. The counter blow would be "in keeping with the principles of our faith," Musavi added.

Diplomatic Developments — The ICO Good Offices Committee to end the Gulf conflict held a preliminary meeting in Jidda and elected Gambian President Dawda Jawara as its new chairman, SPA noted. Responding to the committee's moves, an Iranian envoy in Turkey cited by ANATOLIA said that Iran would soften its stand to end the war if the committee were to admit that Iraq is responsible for the war. If such a step is not taken, all initiatives to end the war will fail, the envoy added. Meanwhile, INA disclosed that Iraq has agreed to a Kuwaiti proposal to postpone for 2 days the third meeting of the Arab ministerial committee, which was to continue discussions on the Gulf conflict on 28 July.

Lebanon

Ship Seizure — The Israeli Navy recently intercepted a Lebanese ship which was involved in an attempt by Fatah to perpetrate a "mass terrorist attack" along Israel's coasts last month, the IDF spokesman announced in a statement reported by ITIM. Israel's investigation has shown that the ship was hired to transport four Fatah "terrorists" from Tripoli to a point from which they transferred to a rubber dinghy to attack the Israeli coast. However, the attempt failed and the Fatah squad apparently returned to Tripoli, the spokesman added. The intercepted Lebanese vessel is in Israel and the interrogation of its eight-man crew is continuing, according to Jerusalem radio.

Israeli Liaison Office — Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran has ordered all Lebanese military personnel to withdraw from the military committee working at the Israeli liaison office at Ad-Dubiyyah, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. While the *JERUSALEM POST* said Israel is expecting Lebanon to order the closure of the liaison office, Israeli political sources cited by Jerusalem radio affirmed that Israel has no intention of closing it.

Relations With Iran — Beirut radio reported the Lebanese Cabinet's decision to restore diplomatic relations with Iran, a move which Tehran radio welcomed as a "positive step toward liberation from the domination of Zionism and imperialism."

Security — The Cabinet decided to authorize the Army to draft a security plan for the Ash-Shuf mountain area, Beirut radio reported. Meanwhile, a general strike was observed in Beirut and other areas to protest Israel's deportation of the Ja'farite mufti from Tyre, the radio noted. As for the situation in the north, Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon reported that Syrian troops completed their deployment in the Al-Kurah region while Al-Maradah and Syrian Social Nationalist Party militias exchanged kidnapped people at the local Syrian headquarters.

Kuwait-USSR

Before departing Moscow for London, Kuwait Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah confirmed that an agreement was initialled that provides for the supply of Soviet arms to Kuwait, KUNA reported. Shaykh Salim also described his talks with Soviet officials as "fruitful and positive," and pointed out that he is looking forward to seeing his Soviet counterpart Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov in Kuwait.

Syria-Jordan

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received the Jordanian parliamentary delegation that participated in the Arab Parliamentary meetings in Damascus, Damascus radio reported. The two sides discussed the situation and developments in the region and in the Arab arena. The head of the Jordanian delegation pointed out in a statement to PETRA cited by Amman radio that the discussions also included a review of Jordanian-Syrian relations and that the talks were "frank and clear."

PLO Affairs

A Democratic Alliance spokesman in Damascus said that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's remarks in Amman regarding his stand toward Cairo constitute a "violation" of the Aden agreement, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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'Arafat Sends Cable to Iraqi President

JN181737 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has sent a congratulatory cable to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn on the anniversary of the Iraqi revolution. In his cable, Abu 'Ammar praised the principled stands which Iraq's party, government, and people are adopting in support of the PLO and our people's just struggle for achieving their legitimate national rights. Abu 'Ammar wished the Iraqi president, country, and people all success and prosperity.

Voice of PLO Reports on 'Arafat News Conference

JN182024 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1631 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] held a news conference at the guest palace in Amman yesterday morning. The conference was attended by a large number of local, Arab, and international media correspondents. We were not able to broadcast this news conference yesterday for techincal reasons.

The conference began with a question by the MENA correspondent in Amman on the situation after Aden and the blueprint of moves on Arab and international levels.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said: The U.S.-Israeli conspiratorial plan, in which some Arab sides participated, has foundered on the rock of the steadfastness of these people and this revolution. We in the PLO, in light of this stand and after we have been able to greatly renovate what the U.S.-Israeli plot had attempted to destroy [words indistinct]. When General Haig, Sharon, and Begin said that they wanted to strike at the PLO infrastructure from the military, political, and organizational viewpoints [words indistinct].

By simple calculations, we can see that at the end of Ramadan there were sea battles in which we and the Israeli Navy fought with alternate success [sijalan]. Both at Al-Aranib Island in north Lebanon and in Haifa, the Lebanese and Palestinian coasts witnessed sea and air battles between us and them. You can see the military operations of the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces. We have been reserved. We called it the Lebanese resistance because we wanted to relieve our camps in southern Lebanon. However, after the 'Ayn al-Hulwah massacres and the attacks on the camps, we revealed our actions.

The joint Lebanese-Palestinian effort has placed the Israelis in a war of attrition. Operations are continuing daily in the south.

Brother Abu 'Ammar spoke about the complete siege which Khan Yunis has been suffering since the day before yesterday.

He said: The Israeli forces have been trying to hide what has been happening there. Many operations are being carried out in the Gaza Strip. The Israeli forces' siege around Khan Yunis proves this. Therefore, we can prove that the attempt to strike at the PLO infrastructure has failed.

Abu 'Ammar continued: [Words indistinct] admit failure in implementing the U.S.-Israeli plot in which some Arab sides were involved.

A reporter asked him: Are they still involved? He answered: Regrettably, yes. He added: Where is Begin who refused to mention my name. He [Begin] used to say: the man with the (?beard). He used to wash his hands every day and say that his ministers cheated him and never informed him of the size of the Israeli human losses in southern Lebanon, in Beirut, or in the war of attrition — losses which surpassed their total losses in all their wars. He has grown a beard and is washing his hands everyday of the shedding of Jewish blood. This is the life of Begin.

Abu 'Ammar said: The Palestinian revolution cannot be overcome. It is true that the enemy was able to deal us hard blows, but we have not lost our flexibility in fighting. However, these difficulties may prove to be to our benefit. The enemy is searching madly for spots from which it can strike at the Palestinian revolution. It is [word indistinct] as they themselves say in their election propaganda.

The Likud, the Labor Party, and other parties have the same figure in their election equations — it is the PLO and Yasir 'Arafat. This is despite the fact that they say the PLO and 'Arafat do not exist. This is because they could not strike at our infrastructure.

We emerged from these battles better trained and experienced. It is true the wound was painful, particularly that which was inflicted by the brothers, and of which I will not talk. Nobody can overlook the Palestinian figure, which has again become the most difficult figure in the equation.

A question was asked by the representative of both the Cairo newspaper *AL-AHRAM* and the Lebanese magazine *AL-HAWADITH*: What in your opinion will be the practical and possible solution to the Palestine question following the long and bitter suffering on both the national and pan-Arab levels? Does Abu 'Ammar pin hope on a political settlement even through an international conference?

Here, Brother Abu 'Ammar spoke about a historical incident and said: The Indian tribes of Mexico dropped their military option when a Spanish leader arrived there. These tribes were enslaved for long centuries. Any nation that drops its military option will certainly vanish. There may be some attempts to achieve a peaceful solution, but such a solution cannot be achieved by begging. On the contrary, this solution can be achieved through balance of power. Begin, Sharon, and Reagan tried — by a signal from the Pentagon — to wipe out the PLO, but they failed to achieve this objective. This was followed by the battles of attrition. Therefore, we will continue to adhere to this attitude. In 1974, I addressed the United Nations by saying: I came to you holding a branch of olives and a rifle. They did not and will not respond to the branch of olives.

Abu 'Ammar said that both the Likud and the Labor parties have the same program. Unfortunately, there is no peaceful solution. The Arab nation's balance of power has the final word and can regain part of our rights.

Then, Abu 'Ammar spoke about the Geneva conference, As-Sadat's stab in the back, and the Gulf war tragedy. He said: In 1979, I once said in Tyre that the strategic dimension extends from here in Tyre to Khorasan. The Gulf war came and ousted Iraq from the equation. It also ousted all oil countries by preoccupying and involving them in expanding the scope of the Iraq-Iran war. For this reason, we say yes to an international conference. However, neither the United States nor Israel will approve it in light of the current circumstances.

He said: We are witnessing the painful labor of the Arab nation's great birth. Blessed be those who are living in this period. We are struggling for mending things and for removing Egypt from the Camp David policy — as the PNC pointed out. Egypt is currently making this move. This was obvious when it put its naval and air forces on alert to help the Palestinian forces in departing Tripoli. This is in additon to President Mubarak's appeal to the United States to recognize the Palestinians' rights. All of you are aware of his statement in this regard. This is also in addition to Egypt restoring its diplomatic relations with the USSR, the friend of both the Arab nation and the Palestinian people.

Brother Abu 'Ammar went on to say: The PLO is active on the levels of the nonaligned and Islamic countries, the international forum, and the special efforts to halt the Iraq-Iran war. I took the initiative following the death of my friend Sekou Toure. Thus, it is working at restoring Egypt to the Arab fold and extinguishing the Gulf war fire — this fire which will destroy everything when it expands. I am racing with time.

Asked by AFP about the scope of the international conference and whether it is based on Resolution 242 and whether he met with Rif'at al-Asad in Geneva, Abu 'Ammar said: Contacts have not stopped between me and my brother, Rif'at. Abu 'Ammar declined to say whether he met with Rif'at or not.

Regarding the scope of the international conference, he said: It was the UN secretary general's initiative [words indistinct] and this is the first international position taken by a friendly superpower such as the PRC in favor of the Palestinian people.

Asked by Netherlands International Radio about the Geneva conference, Brother Abu 'Ammar said: During the conference of the parties and forces of the Mediterranean basin countries in Belgrade, I announced that we agree on convening an international conference in the presence of the United Nations and under its flag to solve the Middle East problem.

The correspondent asked Abu 'Ammar if the Palestinians' objective can be realized through this conference. Abu 'Ammar said: How can we participate in a conference that cannot realize the Palestinians' demands?

Asked if he were optimistic about the possibility of resolving the Palestinian cause, Abu 'Ammar said: There is a difference between those who experience the incident and those who make it. We make incidents. He also explained why and how Beirut was besieged, saying that the siege took place because of the absence of Palestinian forces in the mountain area. The siege was carried out from B'abda, Al-Jumhur, Suq al-Gharb, and 'Alayh, and that the Palestinians were not allowed to enter the mountain area.

Regarding a second visit to Egypt, Brother Abu 'Ammar said: I am interested in visiting Egypt as soon as Palestinian and Arab circumstances allow. Our relations with the Egyptian president continue.

Asked about the Iraq-Iran war, Abu 'Ammar said: We hope that all our brothers, particularly the Iranian brothers, will respond to the forthcoming proposals after the next Jidda conference.

Asked by REUTER about future joint steps between Jordan and the PLO, Abu 'Ammar said: We have agreed on a unified action and a joint policy in order to confront any action against our people in the occupied land at the political and economic levels, on the organized official Zionist terrorism that is supervised by certain official symbols in the Zionist government and Army, on the Judaization of the Christian and Islamic shrines in Jerusalem and Palestine, and all the plans that will challenge this nation. We also have agreed on coordinating our steps at the Arab and international levels. Now we notice this coordination. The word "coordination" is not enough to express what is happening. There are joint steps to confront these developments, especially on our Palestinian level. King Husayn has briefed me on his meeting with Mitterrand and his belief that the PLO is a figure that cannot be ignored if a solution is desired.

Answering a question from a Saudi newspaper on support for our kinfolk's steadfastness in the occupied homeland, Brother Abu 'Ammar said:

Saudi Arabia has not stopped the aid destined for our kinfolk in the occupied homeland. In may meetings with King Fahd, I talked about the subject of aid to our kinfolk, which has begun to decrease, and about the Zionist plan to Judaize the holy places. We agreed to jointly follow up this subject. We also talked about the Jerusalem Committee's decision in Fes to allocate $15 million as an immediate payment for confronting the plan to Judaize Jerusalem. This payment will arrive as planned on 1 August.

Asked if the Likud Party wins, what procedures would he take? Abu 'Ammar said: The Likud and Labor parties are two faces of the same coin. But the Labor Party is more tactful in its ability to break from its isolation. I want to ask, do you think support will come from either of these parties? This is an ugly Zionist expansionist entity and our Arab nation must confront it. I hope that the press would not fall into this trap and become confused.

On the visit of a delegation from the Fatah movement's Central Committee to Damascus, and on Fatah's actions to repair relations with Syria, Abu 'Ammar said:

There is no scheduled visit by a Central Committee delegation to Damascus. It is a joint wish to repair relations. We are not the side who should give. Everybody should give. Why us alone?

On the PLO's relations with the Rakah Party, Abu 'Ammar said: I am elected by a PNC which calls for having relations and holding dialogue with democratic and progressive forces. The

Rakah Party is one of these forces. Therefore, I am carrying out the PNC's decisions.

Answering a question from a Voice of America correspondent on the PNC and the date for convening it, Brother Abu 'Ammar answered:

I announced in February that we could convene the PNC. We have a majority. But we have been concerned about political unanimity. It is true that this is difficult in [word indistinct] activities, but this is one of the sources of our strength. We are trying to assimilate the political majority and not the required quorum. [passage indistinct]

On Iranian-Palestinian relations, Abu 'Ammar said: In my capacity as a mediator, there are continued relations with the Iranian brothers. There were messages exchanged between us. They anounced one of these messages the day before yesterday. We are trying as hard as we can to convince them that this war is against Iran, against Iraq, against the Arabs, against the oppressed as they call them, and against the nonaligned countries.

Concluding his news conference, Brother Abu 'Ammar said that he is going to Jidda to attend the summit conference of the Islamic Good Offices Committee in order to continue efforts to stop the Iraq-Iran war by all possible means.

Qaddumi Praises Algiers Palestinian Agreement

JN181758 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, has described the Algiers agreement that was concluded by the Palestinian resistance groups as an historic achievement for the Palestinian people because it entrenches the PLO's unity and enables it to pursue its role as the Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative.

In a statement published yesterday by the Palestinian News Agency, WAFA, Abu al-Lutf affirmed that the announcment of the political and organizational agreement among the five Palestinian organizations proves the failure of all hostile betting on fragmenting and splitting the Palestinian revolution. He added that this announcement constitutes a historic achievement for the Palestinian people.

Democratic Alliance Raps 'Arafat's Amman Remarks

JN181736 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] In Damascus, a spokesman of the Democratic Alliance has criticized the remarks which 'Arafat made in Amman yesterday regarding his stand toward Cairo, particularly 'Arafat's statement that relations with the Egyptian capital are based on the extent to which Cairo keeps away from Camp David.

On 'Arafat's possible visit to Cairo, the spokesman said that these statements constitute a violation of the Aden agreement, which had been signed in Algiers, because this agreement defines the PLO's stand toward Cairo.

Resistance Operations in South Lebanon Reported

JN181829 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men are further escalating their heroic operations against the Zionist invasion forces and the agent militias of the so-called Army of Southern Lebanon, inflicting on them more casualties and losses.

At dawn yesterday, a group of resistance men attacked a command center for the agent militias of the so-called Army of Southern Lebanon. Using machine guns and rockets in their attack, the resistance men demolished parts of this center, burned a tank, and killed or injured a number of the agent militia men. Eyewitnesses said that Zionist helicopters immediately flew over the scene and patrols from both the enemy forces and agent militias spread out at the scene of the operation and began a search campaign in neighboring houses and farms and arrested a large number of Palestinian and Lebanese citizens under the pretext of searching for the resistance men. However, all these attempts were in vain.

The day before yesterday, two groups of resistance men attacked two Zionist military patrols in Sidon and An-Nabatiyah. Using machine guns and rockets in their attack, the resistance men destroyed two vehicles and killed or injured their personnel. As usual, the Zionist invasion forces opened fire heavily in all directions to intimidate citizens and kill the largest possible number of them. Two citizens were wounded.

Another group of resistance men detonated a remote-controlled explosive charge under a Zionist military patrol while it was passing on the Al-Jiyah Valley road near Tyre in southern Lebanon. The explosion destroyed a Zionist vehicle and killed or wounded all its personnel. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation, but, as usual, refrained from noting his losses.

It is worth noting that the Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men carried out seven heroic operations the day before yesterday. A Zionist military spokesman admitted these operations and claimed that only three Zionist soldiers were wounded. But later the spokesman claimed that there were six casualties.

West Bank Operation Reported

JN181756 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Reports from the occupied homeland say that our revolutionaries operating there carried out a successful resistance operation against Zionist occupation forces in the center of Jericho last Thursday. The occupation authorities remained silent over this operation, which injured several Zionist soldiers. These authorities prevented news correspondents from entering the city, besieged the city militarily, imposed a curfew on it, and deprived citizens of travelling outside the occupied territory.

Arab Terrorist Group Issues Warning to U.S.

NC181328 Paris AFP in English 1312 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Tunis, July 18 (AFP) — An Arab group that has claimed responsibility for several terrorist attacks in the past today demanded that the United States expel Israeli intelligence agents it said were being employed in U.S. embassies in the Middle East.

In a letter received by the AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE office here today, the Arab Revolutionary Brigades charged that agents of the Israeli secret service, Mossad, were working in U.S. embassies "posing as U.S. citizens." Some of the Israeli agents had been provided with U.S. passports, the letter alleged.

"The anti-Arab activities of these Zionist spies have resulted in the deaths of thousands of Arabs," the group said, adding "the United States must be severely punished for all this."

The letter went on to call for the eviction of all Mossad agents allegedly working from U.S. embassies in the Middle East and for the evacuation of all U.S. citizens of Jewish origin from the region to prevent any tragedies."

It concluded by saying: "This is just a warning. Soon we shall take action. [quotation marks as received]

The Arab Revolutionary Brigades claimed responsibility for an October 1983 bomb blast which destroyed a Gulf Air airliner over Abu Dhabi killing 111 people. They also claimed responsibility for an attack on the Jordanian Embassy in Madrid in December 1983 in which one embassy employee was killed and another wounded and for the assassination last February in Paris of the United Arab Emirates' ambassador to France.

ICO Meeting Urges Iraq, Iran To End War

LD181423 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1350 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Jidda, 18 Jul (SPA) The Islamic Good Offices Committee held its first meeting at 1115 this morning under the chairmanship of his excellency the president of Gambia, Dawda Jawara, chairman of the committee. The meeting was attended by all members and ICO General Secretary Habib Chatti.

The committee will be discussing the possible solution of the Iraqi-Iran dispute and the likelihood of dispatching a committee to both countries after they have accepted the call of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to allow the dispatch of representatives to their countries.

The Gambian president and chairman of the committee made a speech in which he thanked the committee members for their valuable confidence in him by electing him chairman of the committee. He reaffirmed his resolve to continue the work of his predecessor to end this bloody war which is sapping the strength of the Islamic nation. The Gambian president urged the two fraternal countries of Iran and Iraq to end this war, to put the supreme interest of the Islamic nation above all considerations, and to make this region avoid the dangers of this escalation which is apt to threaten peace and stability in the region. He reaffirmed the resolve of the committee to continue its work to realize this objective and prayed to God that this committee would be successful in its mission at this meeting.

Afterwards, ICO Secretary General Habbib Chatti delivered a speech in which he dealt with the huge human and material losses in both countries resulting from the Iraq-Iran war. He noted that the Islamic peace committee held a meeting in Mecca and appealed to the two Muslim countries — Iran and Iraq — to realize they must put an end to this conflict so that they can add their efforts and capabilities for jihad to the efforts and capabilities of the other Islamic states for the sake of the collective defense of the Palestinian people and to uphold peace in the entire region. Mr Chatti added that 2 years have elapsed since that appeal was made and the situation in the Middle East is developing to the worse, as Lebanon is still occupied by the Israelis who are continuing their suppressive policy on Palestinian land.

Habib Chatti reaffirmed that the Islamic nation realizes the consequences of the continuation of the Iraq-Iran conflict. This is realized particularly by the Islamic peace committee which was able to hold its current meeting despite the short notice. Mr Chatti said: Our meeting today calls on us — as Muslims — to persevere and double our efforts and confront all obstacles in order to solve this problem. I pray to God to remove all pains being suffered by the two Muslim peoples. He added that the situation in the Gulf region has reached a stage in which peace and the interests of the Islamic nation are being threatened today like never before. He praised the efforts and tireless work of his predecessor, the late President Ahmad Sekou Toure. At the end of his speech he expressed thanks to His Excellency President Dawda Jawara and congratulated him on his election as chairman of the committee. He also expressed thanks to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz for the warm welcome and facilities given to the committee, pointing out that this care and interest was and would always encourage us to double the efforts along the path of peace.

The committee will resume its meeting later today.

Meeting Issues Communique

LD190826 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0555 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Jidda, 19 Jul (SPA) — At the end of its meeting at dawn today, the Islamic Good Offices Committee decided to give a mandate to its new chairman, Gambian President Dawda Jawara, to hold negotiations with the authorities in both Iran and Iraq to ascertain their current stances, and to decide on the implementation of the resolutions of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] with the aim of reaching a just settlement in the conflict between the two countries.

In a communique issued at the end of its meetings, the committee warned against the dangers resulting from the escalation of the conflict between the two countries, and urged the Islamic nation to express its solidarity to confront the grave dangers surrounding it. Here follows the text of the communique:

The Islamic Peace Committee, formed by the third Islamic summit conference, which was convened in Mecca and At-Ta'if, held meetings on 18-19 July 1984. At the beginning of the

opening session the committee recited the first surah of the holy Koran in memory of the late president of Guinea, His Excellency Ahmad Sekou Toure. The committee praised and noted his tireless efforts while chairing the committee in search of a speedy and peaceful solution to the painful conflict between Iran and Iraq.

The committee then proceeded to elect its new chairman, His Excellency Gambian President Dawda Jawara.

After reviewing its efforts since its establishment in January 1981 toward a peaceful solution to the conflict between Iran and Iraq, the committee recalled in particular the first peace plan reached by its first session held in late February and early March 1981, and the elements that were added to this plan as a result of the reactions of both sides. The committee also recalled that during this period it maintained constant contact with both sides and carried out several missions to both Tehran and Baghdad.

It also interceded on many occasions with both sides to prevent escalation and to halt raids on civilian targets in particular. It is regrettable that such an escalation has continued and is still threatening a widening of the area of the war and a foreign adventure to interfere in this area. In this connection the committee reviewed the situation in the Middle East, which is characterized by the continuation of the Israeli occupation of part of Lebanon, Israel's suppressive policy against the Palestinian Arab people, Israel's defiling of Islamic holy places and usurpation of land, and the planting of settlements on Palestinian and Arab lands.

The committee, while convinced that it expresses the deep rooted and genuine feelings of the Islamic nation, is of the opinion that it is urgent and more pressing than ever before that the states should express their solidarity and cohesion, so that they can confront the grave dangers surrounding them. The committee noted and recorded that despite its efforts the situation is far from improving. It has assumed dimensions that cause anxiety, characterized by the bombing of civilian targets and the hindering of navigation through attacks on ships in Gulf waters. The committee has recorded this escalation as being a real threat entailing the danger of widening the area of the war, a matter that increases the lack of security in the entire region, as well as the possibility of foreign interference.

In view of this extremely dangerous situation, the committee has decided to grant its chairman, Gambian President Dawda Jawara, a mandate to speak with the authorities in both Iraq and Iran to ascertain their current stances to define the methods and means for the implementation of the resolutions of the Islamic Conference Organization, with the aim of reaching a just settlement of the conflict.

Arab Ministerial Committee Meeting Postponed

JN181420 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1350 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Tunis, 18 Jul (INA) — INA's correspondent in Tunis has learned that Iraq has agreed to a Kuwaiti proposal to postpone the third meeting of the Arab ministerial committee, which has been entrusted with following up the Iraq-Iran war, scheduled to convene on 28 July. The meeting will instead be held on 30 July.

The Arab League's General Secretariat yesterday circulated a Kuwaiti memorandum concerning this matter to Arab countries who are members of the committee.

The members are: Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Jordan, Tunis, Morocco, and the YAR.

During its meeting, the committee will assess its recent activities and will draft a plan for future action.

GULF MIRROR on 'Secret Talks' on Gulf War

GF191111 Manama GULF MIRROR In English 19-25 Jul 84 p 1

[By Graham Cole]

[Excerpt] High-level secret talks which could spell the beginning of a serious peace process in the Iran-Iraq war have taken place this week in Saudi Arabia and Qatar and, despite denials from Tehran, Iran was directly involved.

Informed sources confirmed that Iran has opened the door to a de-escalation of the fighting and may now agree to end attacks on Gulf shipping as a step towards resolving the three-year-old conflict.

The Iranian undersecretary for foreign affairs visited both Riyadh and Doha in a secret bid to begin positive discussions with the Gulf Cooperation Council states.

Ostensibly the visit was to arrange details of the hajj pilgrimage next month and also resulted in an invitation to the speaker of the Iranian parliament, 'Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to perform the hajj.

IRNA, Iran's official news agency has denied that Mr Rafsanjani has accepted such an invitation from Saudi Arabia, and Tehran has also said no offer of peace talks has been made. But observers are convinced that in both instances the denials are designed to cover up Iran's apparent difficulties in continuing the war.

"You can deny saying something, you can deny intending to do something, but how can you deny that somebody has been sent to Riyadh?" said a source. "If the undersecretary went to discuss the hajj, but also discussed the war, then Iran can deny that he was specifically on a mission connected to the war, but that is simply so that they do not appear weak."

Gulf sources believe the new developments also reflect divisions within the Tehran government about the continuation of the war.

"For the first time there are some people who are talking sense for a change," said an influential observer. "Absolute common sense is now being heard from Iran."

BAHRAIN

Foreign Minister Meets With Indonesian Counterpart

GF181158 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Manama, 18 Jul (WAKH) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah met in Manama today with Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, who arrived in Manama earlier today. During the meeting, the two sides discussed bilateral relations, issues of interest to the Islamic world, and issues of mutual concern.

KUWAIT

Maltese Foreign Minister Holds Talks

LD181429 Kuwait KUNA in English 1342 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Kuwait, July 18 (KUNA) — Visiting Maltese Foreign Minister Dr Alex Sceberras Trigona held a series of meetings here Wednesday on fostering bilateral relations between Kuwait and Malta in different sectors. His Highness the crown prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah received at his office at the Council of Ministers the Maltese minister who arrived here last night on a three-day visit to Kuwiat.

Dr Trigona also met with deputy premier, foreign and information minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir at his office at the Information Ministry and had talks on bilateral relations and means of consolidating cooperation in various sectors.

The Maltese minister later met with the director general of the Kuwait Fund for Economic Development Faysal al-Khalid to discuss the development projects which the fund can participate in carrying out in Malta.

Dr Trigona is scheduled to continue his meetings and contacts Thursday and is planned to meet with Oil and Finance Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Adhbi and the Board Chairman of Kuwait Oil Tanker Company 'Abd Al-Fatah al-Badir and Board Chairman of Kuwait Hotels Company 'Ali al-Ghanim al-Jabr.

AL-ANBA' Attacks Al-Qadhdhafi's Arab Unity Move

GF181726 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 17 Jul 84 pp 1, 20

[Editorial: "No, Your Excellency the Colonel, Unity Is Not Imposed by Threats"]

[Excerpts] Arab unity is a national aim, and no two people disagree on the importance of achieving it through serious and conscious work rather than through words and banners. Despite that, Libya, the caller of unity, carries the largest balance of differences with the majority of the Arab countries. It is a participant in many hot and cold crises along the Arab arena. This contradicts, by all standards and specifications, the call for unity which must be based on resolving the differences and melding them into the crucible of the common national interest at the expense of narrow and limited regional interests.

Apart from that, the Libyan bias toward Iran in the Gulf war is a radical deviation, not only from the unitary line, but also from the most basic Arab principles.

Amid this obvious and shameful contradiction between words and action in the Libyan political directions came the lunacy of the recent call for achieving unity within 2 months.

Yesterday's statements of the Libyan envoy in Rabat, Muhammad al-Qasim az-Zuwayy, have offered to the Arab leaders two choices only: They will either accept the unity as the colonel sees it and within a period not stretching beyond September, or they will all, without exception, subject themselves to the "difficult" solution. This means that they will be targets for revolutionary operations and for export of the revolution. The Libyan regime has magnanimously stopped these operations temporarily. However, he [Al-Qadhdhafi] will resume these operations if they do not respond to his "unitary" call.

Your Excellency, the colonel, unity will not be achieved by threats and is not imposed by force. It will neither be achieved through exported coup d'etats and revolutions nor through the conscription of agents. This will not achieve anything but more division, fragmentation, and relapses.

Your Excellency, the colonel, let us learn from the lessons of the past and the present, and let us believe that the unity road is long and difficult. It will not be achieved in the course of a day and a night. It will never be achieved by threats, twisting arms, or chopping necks, even if this is the "difficult solution."

OMAN

Sultan's Representative Returns From PRC

GF181824 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Thuwayni ibn Shahab al Sa'id, special representative of Sultan Qabus, and the accompanying delegation, returned home this evening from the PRC, following an 8-day official visit during which Al Sa'id met with PRC President Li Xiannian to whom he conveyed the greetings of Sultan Qabus.

During their meeting, the special representative of Sultan Qabus and the PRC president discussed means of bolstering the existing cooperation between the two friendly countries as well as reviewing the recent developments of issues in the region, foremost of which are the Iraqi-Iranian war, the situation in the Middle East, the foreign intervention in Afghanistan, and Vietnamese intervention in Cambodia.

During their official visit to PRC, Al Sa'id and his accompanying delegation visited historical places and major industrial establishments in a number of PRC cities.

QATAR

Briefs

Outgoing Omani Envoy — Doha, 17 Jul (QNA) — Qatari Minister of Labor and Social Affairs 'Ali ibn Ahmad al-Ansari received today Omani ambassador to Qatar Salim Muhammad al-Ghaylani on the end of his term of office. [Summary] [Doha QNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 17 Jul 84 GF]

SAUDI ARABIA

'UKAZ Reports New Move on Gulf War

GF181715 Doha QNA in Arabic 1310 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Jidda, 18 Jul (QNA) — The Saudi newspaper *'UKAZ* said today that an intensive Islamic and diplomatic move will follow the meetings of the Islamic Good Offices Committee, which is involved in finding a solution to the Iraq-Iran conflict. The newspaper said that this move will involve the Nonaligned Movement countries and the international arena to coordinate the efforts to limit the Iraq-Iran war and provide a new momentum to the efforts to end the war by an international unanimity.

Turkish Defense Minister Yavuzturk Ends Visit

LD181342 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1324 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Jidda, 18 Jul (SPA) — Turkish Defense Minister Zeki Yavuzturk left Jidda today after an official visit to the kingdom which lasted for several days.

UAE

Saudi Journal Interviews Official on Arab Unity, Arms

LD181042 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0705 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Riyadh, 18 Jul (SPA) — Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the Armed Forces of the UAE, stressed that the GCC countries are determined to defend themselves without seeking the aid of any foreign power. He praised the achievements of the council since its establishment.

In an interview with the Saudi *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, published today, he said present conditions project the importance of the GCC and the greatness of its aims. The leaders of the GCC countries have worked to guarantee its intrinsic power, to ensure that the security of the Gulf is the responsibility of its people and not the responsibility of any other power, and to achieve the aspirations of the peoples of the region in prosperity and progress.

He called for further international efforts to halt the Iraqi-Iranian war and to realize a comprehensive settlement between the two countries. He stressed that the best way to block the designs of the countries (? lying in wait) for the region is to make haste to extinguish the flames of the war and to restore good-neighborly relations between the two countries. He expressed profound anxiety over reports of troops massing along the border between the two countries which could lead to further shedding of Islamic blood and to wasting the resources of the two countries.

He called for further speedy moves to settle disputes between Arab countries and to prepare a suitable atmosphere for convening the forthcoming Arab summit so that it can adopt decisive measures on the dangers threatening the Arab nation.

He warned against the stagnation in which the Arab nation is living. He said this exposes it to further dismemberment and requires speedy moves, even though these moves could come from certain countries settling secondary problems and disputes between themselves through calm contacts and dialogue.

He stressed that the efforts of Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and his contacts with Syria and Iraq and between Morocco and Algeria are continuing. They seek to lay down the principle of improving relations on the bases of overcoming many of the problems which disturb them. He pointed out that Shaykh Zayid's visits to Turkey and Tunisia next month are aimed at strengthening relations and cooperation with both countries in various spheres and to cement the unity of the Islamic nation.

His Highness welcomed the agreement between the Palestinian organizations and said he hopes this agreement will be the beginning of a new round of concord in the Palestinian arena. He warned that any delay of achieving concord encourages the enemy and his plans.

He pointed out that he does not exclude the possibility of Israel committing aggression against any Arab state, including Syria, at any time. He attributed this to Israel's economic and security problems which could force it to resort to aggression.

Khalifah ibn Zayid announced that the UAE will be receiving the weapons contracted from France, including Mirage-2000 aircraft, on schedule in 1986. He said that during his visit to Britain he will be discussing military matters with the British defense secretary and questions of supplying the Emirates Armed Forces with modern weapons to strengthen defensive capabilities and to deversify the sources of weapons.

He said that when the UAE considers the time suitable for establishing relations with the Soviet Union it will not hesitate for one moment in adopting the suitable decision.

He expressed hope that Lebanon will again become an independent and free Arab state. He pointed out that the setting up of the National Unity Government is the first step on the path of salvation.

Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid called on the OPEC countries to adhere to the fixed production ceiling to prevent an oil glut on the market and that OPEC should not find itself facing a new crisis in the near future. He stressed the concern of the oil producing Gulf states in general, and the UAE in particular, for the unity of OPEC and the stability of economic and financial conditions in the world.

As for the delay in producing the UAE's budget, he explained that this is a reflection of falling revenue from oil. He expressed hope that this stage will be overcome and that some thought will be given to alternatives to cover the expenditure of the public budget.

Foreign Ministry Official Meets Iraqi, Iranian Envoys

GF181513 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 18 Jul (WAM) — Sayf Sa'id Sa'id, director of the GCC and Gulf Countries Department at the Foreign Ministry, met today with Ahmad Tayis, Iraqi charge d'affaires to the country. During the meeting, bilateral relations and the developments of the situation in the region, were discussed.

Mr Sayf Sa'id Sa'id also met with Mahmud Sadat Madar-Shahi, Iranian ambassador to the country. They discussed bilateral relations and the recent developments on the Gulf arena.

Ministry's Study on Labor Situation Reported

GF181044 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 18 Jul 84 p 3

[By Mervat Diab]

[Text] The number of skilled expatriate workforce is expected to go up to 286,000 by 1985 — an increase of 105,000 over the 1980 figures, while the number of unskilled labour is likely to fall to 110,000 — down by 85,000 compared to the 1980 position. This is one of the main conclusions of a study on manpower planning and training policy in the UAE conducted by the planning Department of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

The study, prepared by the director of planning, Mr 'Ali Darwish, mentions government programme for rationalising expenditure and the worldwide recession as the major reason for the expected fall in the number of unskilled workforce. Mr Darwish believed that the rationalisation programme would bring about a big change in the job situation in the country.

The study also refers to government measures to appoint nationals in key positions in public sector, and various training programmes and vocational courses being undertaken to create a national cadre to meet the country's development needs. It notes that despite obstacles, a good number of nationals have been trained to take up responsible positions.

According to the study, during the last three years 1,879 nationals graduated from various training centers affiliated to different petroleum companies operating in the country. Besides, some 2,294 nationals graduated from government technical institutes for skilled jobs in various fields.

About the role of social development centres run by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the study says that 3,936 national women have passed different courses conducted by these centres and are now holding positions of responsibility in the nation-building activity. Moreover, these centres have helped the rehabilitation of 192 handicapped people.

Mr Darwish, in his study, highlighted the rapid increase in the number of expatriate labour after the oil boom. The UAE population, according to the study, tripled during the first five years that followed the formation of the federation. The national population, too, registered an increase of six percent which the study described as a very high rate.

Describing the rate of increase in the workforce as abnormal, the study says that during the 1968-75 period the contribution of expatriate labour to the country's economic activity ranged from 43 to 50 percent. The number of workforce during the period has been shown as 297,000 as against 78,000 in 1968. According to the study, the increase in the number of working labourers reached 12 percent by 1980. It also mentions the presence of unemployed labourers. The so-called "situation of over-supply" in the labour market has been attributed to the presence of "unemployed and disguised labourers," who constituted 10 percent of the total labour strength.

The study holds the employers responsible for this situation. It says that in their eagerness to have more cheap labour, they had brought into the country a large number of people who, during the years of recession, could not be accommodated. The study points out that the shortage of human resources in the country and the attitude of looking down upon technical and vocational jobs on the part of educated nationals also played an important role in creating this situation in the labour market.

The study complains that the new generation has so far failed to take note of the changing socioeconomic conditions. The study suggests measures to bring down the number of expatriate workforce. Mechanisation of the infrastructure, rationalisation of government expenditure, and minimising the recruitment of unskilled labour have been recommended to reor-ganise the labour market. Proper organisation of cooperative societies to streamline marketing in the trade sector and more attention on training programmes and vocational courses for nationals have also been suggested to meet the country's development requirements.

The study says that the implementation of these recommendations will help to reduce the number of expatriate workforce by 10 percent without any negative effect on the country's development process. The study predicts a decrease in the country's population by 1985. It says it will come down to 1.017 million from the 1980 figure of 1.040 million.

The study calls for measures to encourage the foreign workforce to live here with their families. It predicts a slight rise in the inflow of family members in the coming years. It emphasises the importance of encouragement to national cadre in taking over responsible positions in all fields of economic activity.

Briefs

Outgoing Netherlands Envoy — Abu Dhabi, 17 Jul (WAKH) — Ya'qub al-Kindi, acting undersecretary at the UAE Foreign Ministry met here today Dr. Dirk J.J. Van Lottum, the Dutch charge d'affairs who paid him farewell at the end of his term in the country. The meeting also dealt with bilateral relations, latest

development in the region and issues of common interest. [Text] [Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 17 Jul 84 GF]

PDRY

Chairman Receives Bulgarian Leader's Message

GF181436 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received a written message from Comrade Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and chairman of the State Council. The message was conveyed by Comrade Dimo Khristov Kamburov, Bulgarian ambassador in Aden. During the meeting which took place at the secretariat of the YSP Central Committee today, a number of issues of mutual concern were discussed. Views were also exchanged on bolstering bilateral relations and means of strengthening the cooperation and the coordination between the YSP and the BCP, and between the two friendly governments in various fields.

The brother secretary general expressed satisfaction over the developing friendly cooperation between our country and the Bulgarian People's Republic. He also expressed appreciation for the support and solidarity extended by the Bulgarian People's Republic to our Arab nation in its struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

Briefs

Outgoing Tanzanian Envoy — Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers received today at the secretariat of the YSP Central Committee Mrs Fatuma Tatunuru, Tanzanian nonresident ambassador to the PDRY on end of her term of office. [Text] [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Jul 84 GF]

YAR

Yemeni Council Secretariat Issues Statement

GF181653 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Press statement issued at the conclusion of the eighth session of the Yemeni Council Secretariat held from 15 to 18 July in San'a']

[Text] In a true friendly atmosphere and with a feeling of national responsibility, the Secretariat of the Yemeni Council held its eighth session from 15 to 18 July in the city of San'a'. The session was chaired by Brother Mahmud 'Abdallah 'Ushaysh, minister of state, and Brother Ahmad Muhammad ash-Shajan, minister of state for Cabinet affairs, member of the Standing Committee, and chairman of the northern delegation.

The secretariat dealt with the issues in the agenda. It comprehensively reviewed the level of implementation of the decisions of the second session of the Supreme Yemeni Council, the first session of the joint ministerial committee, and the special ministerial committee. The secretariat has prepared a report on the implementation of the various decisions and the projects of the special charter on the organization of the work of the secretariat. The secretariat has also discussed means of strengthening and devel(oping cooperation and coordination between the two parts. The secretariat formulated the agenda of the second session of the joint ministerial committee, which is scheduled to be held in Aden soon.

The session was characterized by accurate assessment and discussion of the previous agreements already being implemented. Successfully concluding its work, the secretariat is satisfied with the work done by the various organs in the two parts of Yemen. The secretariat affirms the importance of accurate implementation of the various agreements and solution of the difficulties facing them. The secretariat highly evaluates the directions of the political leaderships in the two parts of the homeland, their interest in the secretariat and the unity councils, and their interest in the progress of all unity agreements with the aim of making them successful in taking further steps on the road of unity to lay a solid foundations for achieving Yemeni unity on a peaceful and democratic basis.

President Mubarak Addresses NDP Secretaries

NC181422 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1245 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, 18 Jul (MENA) — Following a 3-hour meeting between President Husni Mubarak, the parliamentary group, and the NDP secretaries in the governorates of Al-Jizah and Al-Gharbiyah, Information Minister Safwat ash-Sharif stated the president's meeting with the parliamentary bodies in these governorates is the first in a series of meetings he will hold with other governorates at this important stage following the People's Assembly elections and the start of a new phase in national action.

He said the aim of these meetings is to become acquainted with the newly elected members to the People's Assembly and, hence, the president is eager to continue holding these meetings.

The information minister added President Mubarak spoke during today's meeting about the Egyptian Government's domestic and foreign policy, which is ultimately aimed at the public interest and serving the Egyptian citizen.

Safwat ash-Sharif said the president addressed the People's Assembly members by saying: I am talking to you frankly today on all issues that concern you. I will propose to you and discuss with you our domestic and foreign political lines. All this is connected with building our country and unselfishly building the future for the coming generations. This is how contributions, building, and planning are made. Development should be for our sons because they are the ones who will reap the fruits in the future.

Safwat ash-Sharif said that during the meeting the president dealt with the philosophy that governs change. His excellency said change is dictated by a correct and fair assessment made in the public interest. The president explained public responsibility in any position is a matter of trust as well as a service. The ministers who have left the service and their positions for other positions are nationalists from the sons of Egypt who have given much for the sake of their country and fulfilled their tasks. The president said honoring them today stems from this premise in confirmation of values compatible with our society's traditions and also in appreciation for their contributions.

Safwat ash-Sharif said that during the meeting President Mubarak stressed the need to deepen our understanding that leaving the ministerial position does not mean leaving the national action arena. We must also deepen our concept of respecting differing opinions and freedom of the press. I always hope every writer will respect the values of our country and society and will protect the citizens' reputation and the sanctity of the family, the president added.

The president explained democracy and freedom prosper by respecting the opinions of others, and by facing an argument with an argument, an objective reply, and a civilized dialogue. We should respect Egypt's noble values and traditions which we are always seeking to accentuate in order for Egyptian society to appear unique in its familial cohesiveness and lofty traditions and customs.

The president also said that differences of opinion should not affect human relations because we are all the sons of one country; all of Egypt is one large family.

President Mubarak said that Egypt must remain a towering citadel with its civilization, scientists, experts, universities, educated people, peasants, workers, and all components of the loftiness it possesses. The president said that the majority and the opposition are the sons of Egypt and that there is no categorization of citizens. We are always endeavoring to cooperate and reunite. We are all working in Egypt's interest in the manner that benefits the public interest and agrees with the interest of the great majority.

The president added that the stages of national struggle since 1952 are continuing today. The national action arena will expand in the future so that each nationalist will give his country effort and action in the interest of the people.

Regarding the Armed Forces, the president said that our Armed Forces are the shield that protects our will, soil, homeland, democracy, and stability, as well as protecting Egyptian dignity.

The president held a dialogue on foreign issues. He said Egypt has its own independent status in the world and influence in its region and continent. The president said: I need not repeat this, but I affirm that Egypt possesses its free will and rejects interference by any power in its affairs, regardless of how deep its relations and cooperation are with that power.

He said: Our relations with other countries are governed by frankness and mutual respect. Egypt deals with them on an equal footing. Any decision by the government is governed by its supreme interests.

In his statement, the president dealt with relations with the superpowers, saying Egypt is linked to the United States by special relations and now has normal relations with the Soviet Union, as it is a superpower.

The president discussed the Mideast peace march, Arab relations, Egypt's role in the Nonaligned Movement, and the Iran-Iraq war, as well as its dimensions and effects on the region.

Safwat ash-Sharif said that during the meeting, the president praised the publication of the international daily edition of *AL-AHRAM*. This paper now reports objective Egyptian news daily to all Egypt's sons abroad and to Arab brothers all over the world, and explains to them the realities of Egyptian developments.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Arrives in Cairo

NC181426 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Indonesian Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja arrived in Cairo this afternoon on a 3-day visit to Egypt. He was received upon arrival by Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid.

The Indonesian foreign affairs minister said he is carrying a message from Indonesian President Ahmad Suharto to President Husni Mubarak. He said he will hold talks with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid on developing relations between Egypt and Indonesia, in addition to reviewing international problems of mutual interest.

Official talks between Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid and the Indonesian foreign affairs minister will start at noon tomorrow.

Sierra Leonean Foreign Minister Arrives in Cairo

NC182027 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Sierra Leonean Foreign Minister Abdulai Conteh arrived in Cairo this evening on a 3-day visit. He was received by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs. The official talks between Dr Ghali and the Sierra Leonean foreign affairs minister will start tomorrow evening. The talks will deal with African issues, the Middle East situation, and bilateral relations.

Mubarak Meets Indonesian, Sierra Leonean Ministers

NC191110 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, 19 Jul (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this morning received Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, Indonesian minister of foreign affairs. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid and Barkah Tirtadjaya, the Indonesian ambassador to Cairo. Kusumaatmaja arrived in Cairo on 18 July for a 2-day visit to Egypt.

President Mubarak this morning also received Dr Abdulai Conteh, Sierra Leonean minister of foreign affairs, who is presently visiting Cairo. The meeting was attended by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs. The Sierra Leonean minister arrived in Egypt, for a 3-day visit, on 18 July.

Mubarak Cables Nicaraguan Leader on Anniversary

NC181202 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1108 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, 18 Jul (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak sent the following cable of congratulations to Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction in Nicaragua, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Sandinista's assumption of power:

I am pleased to convey to Your Excellency sincerest heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of the anniversary of the Sandinista's assumption of power with my best wishes for your health and happiness and for the further progress and elevation of your friendly people. With my deepest esteem and regards.

'Ali To Chair Higher Council for Investment

NC181544 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Cairo, 18 Jul (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today said a Higher Council for Investment has been formed under his chairmanship, and comprising the ministers of planning, economy, industry, agriculture, reconstruction, and electricity. He added that the council will meet on Sunday once every 2 weeks to give investment a strong impetus.

The prime minister said the main tasks of the Higher Council for Investment include eliminating all obstacles before the investors and laying down firm bases for promoting investment projects in the public and private sectors.

AL-AHRAM Comments on Kuwaiti-Soviet Arms Deal

PM181127 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 17 Jul 84 p 7

[Editorial: "Dimensions of the Deal"]

[Text] Soviet arms are finding their way to another Arab country in the Middle East through the recent arms deal concluded in Moscow. That country is Kuwait. Kuwait purchased Soviet arms before but the significance of this deal is in its size and its link with the Gulf war because its aim is the defense of commercial shipping in the Gulf.

The deal follows the U.S. refusal to supply Kuwait with Stinger missiles which Kuwait considered to be an insult and which made Kuwait, after numerous warnings to Washington, carry out its threat and seek arms from Moscow to protect itself, especially against any possible surprise attacks by Iran.

Jordan had once found itself in a similar predicament and it too concluded an arms deal — albeit not a large one — with Moscow.

These attitudes carry the seeds of a shift toward the Soviet Union by states which had no such inclination in the past. This in itself is evidence of Washington's failure to pursue a fair policy toward the moderate states in the region or of the fact that it is still a captive of the eternal internal conflict between its global strategy and its regional needs.

AL-JUMHURIYAH: U.S. Mistakes Force Turn to USSR

PM190949 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 16 Jul 84 p 5

[Muhammad al-Hayawan article: "A Word of Love"]

[Text] Kuwait is under the threat of war and it needs to defend itself. It needs defensive weapons. It has no intention of invading Iran, and the distance between it and Israel is vast. As the Arabs always do, Kuwait turned to the United States, but the latter refused to to supply it with arms, so it was forced to turn to Moscow.

There is nothing new under the sun. The same has happened before several times, from 'Abd an-Nasir to Boumediene, to King Husayn, to this present day. We do not go to Moscow willingly. The United States always forces us to do so. We are against communism by nature, and we realize that Soviet arms are far inferior to arms made in the West, but self-defense necessitates that we go to Moscow so long as the United States refuses to arm the Arabs.

Soviet influence entered the region with the Soviet arms deal for 'Abd an-Nasir, and it has not ended since. Nobody can blame us for seeking arms from Moscow then. In fact a [Soviet] offer reached Cairo even before we started thinking about the matter.

The same thing, the same U.S. mistake has been repeated. The United States does not try to learn from its mistakes because it has handed its reins to Israel, which leads it any way it likes in the Middle East with a view to serving Israeli objectives, even if that clashes with U.S. interests.

The arms deal is not the only thing. There is talk about a treaty, although Kuwait strongly denies it, and about diplomatic relations between Moscow and the GCC states which have not yet recognized the Soviet Union. These states are Saudi Arabia, the Sultanate of Oman, the UAE, Qatar, and Bahrain.

U.S. mistakes are recurring in the region and they continue, Israel and the Soviet Union are the first to benefit from this, and the Arabs are and will always be the losers unless they agree on a new and unified armament and arms manufacturing policy.

Communique No 1,530 Reports 18 July Operations

JN181553 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1514 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jul (INA) — A military communique has said that formations of Iraqi helicopter gunships attacked Iranian forces positions and weapon emplacements east of Tigris today. The communique added that the helicopters scored direct hits and returned safely to base. Communique No 1,530 issued by the Armed Forces General Command also said that one of the Iraqi forward units in the Maysan sector pounded Iranian forces positions with artillery, scoring direct, effective hits. It added that one infantry position was destroyed east of Basra. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,530 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces are continuing their triumphant operations at the front against the forces of the Iranian ruling clique of rancor and aggression. The following are the results of last night and today's operations:

1. One of our forward units pounded a number of enemy positions and troop concentrations in the central sector of the front, using artillery and other kinds of weapons and destroying one infantry position and killing those manning it. One hardware stockpile was also blown up.

2. Formations of our daring helicopter gunships attacked a number of enemy positions, destroying one infantry position and killing those manning it. All our helciopters returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. Sighting a number of enemy vehicles opposite its positions in the northern sector of the front, one of our forward units pounded them and destroyed one vehicle.

4. Using artillery, one of our forward units struck enemy positions opposite our positions in the Maysan sector, scoring direct, effective hits.

5. One infantry position was destroyed east of Basra.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 July 1984

Very Large Target Hit Southeast of Khark Island

JN190657 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0650 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With God's help and with great success a successful air strike was carried out against a very large maritime target southeast of the Iranian Khark Island at 0555 this morning. The maritime target was effectively and accurately hit. All the eagles of the air and their aircraft returned safely and triumphantly to base, praise be to God. 19 July 1984

Navy Commander on Iranian Losses, Siege

JN191010 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jul (INA) — The staff commodore commanding the Iraqi naval force has stated that so far Iran has lost 170 maritime targets as well as one-fourth of its naval force.

In an interview with *AL-JUMHURIYAH* today the Iraqi commander said that the next stage will witness a tightening of the siege on Khark Island and Iranian ports. He added that any vessel that ventures into this area will not get away. He stressed that the Iraqi Navy had tightened its siege on Iranian sites such as Bandar-e Khomeyni and Bushehr ports. He also pointed out that Iran has sustained heavy losses in its attempts to protect the vessels entering Iranian ports, whose number has not exceeded 10 [as received] during the past 2 years.

CSSR Deputy Premier Leads Official Visit

Meets Oil Minister

JN181248 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1135 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jul (INA) — Minister of Oil Qasim Ahmad Taqi today met with CSSR Deputy Premier Ladislav Gerle.

The two sides discussed the Iraqi-CSSR relations of cooperation and means of bolstering and developing them in the interest of the two countries' peoples.

The director general of the Oil Ministry's department for foreign relations and investments and the CSSR charge d'affaires in Baghdad attended the meeting.

Brings Greetings From Husak

JN181638 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, RCC member and vice president, today received CSSR Deputy Premier Ladislav Gerle and his delegation. They reviewed joint cooperation between the two countries in the service of the two friendly peoples.

The CSSR deputy premier conveyed greetings from CSSR President Gustav Husak to President Saddam Husayn. Husak wished the Iraqi people continued progress and prosperity. He praised the development and progress of Iraq despite the war circumstances.

The vice president entrusted the CSSR deputy premier to convey President Saddam Husayn's greetings to the CSSR president, affirming Iraq's desire to develop and expand bilateral relations in the service of the two friendly peoples.

The meeting was attended by Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi, Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Muhammad Sa'id ash-Shaf, and the CSSR charge d'affaires.

Meets Vice President Ramadan

JN181617 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, today received CSSR Deputy Premier Ladislav Gerle and his delegation.

The two sides discussed Iraqi-CSSR relations and stressed the need to promote them in all fields in the service of the joint interests of the two friendly peoples. They also discussed ways to strengthen the relations of friendship and cooperation now and in the future through the continuous exchange of visits and meetings between the two countries' officials on all levels.

The meeting was attended by Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi and the CSSR charge d'affaires.

Visit Concludes

JN182026 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1904 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jul (INA) — CSSR Deputy Premier Ladislav Gerle ended a 4-day visit to Iraq and left Baghdad for home today.

The CSSR official expressed his satisfaction with his talks with Iraqi officials. He said his visit will contribute toward strengthening the existing relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries in the joint interest of the two friendly peoples.

Kurdish Executive Council Hails Iraqi Revolution

JN181654 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The Executive Council of the Kurdish autonomous region held a meeting today under its chairman Jamal al-Haj Sharif. Speaking at the beginning of the meeting, Sharif hailed the 16th anniversary of the 17-30 July revolution and the 15th anniversary of President Saddam's Husayn's assumption of the highest office in the party and state leadership.

The council decided to appoint a large number of imams, Koran readers, and servants in the various mosques of the region in light of the report submitted by the general secretariat of the Awqaf department to this effect.

PNC Members in Jordan Back Aden Agreement

JN181320 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Amman —The PNC members residing in Jordan have announced their full support for the Aden agreement signed on 27 June under the auspices of the Algerian FLN party and the YSP.

In a statement issued today, the PNC members stressed that the agreement is considered an important achievement toward restoring the PLO's unity, preserving iits national course, and strongly adhering to its political program and the successive PNC resolutions, which aim to achieve the Palestinian people's aspirations to repatriation and self-determination.

In their statement, the PNC members called on all the Palestinian resistance groups, forces, and figures to participate in the comprehensive national dialogue in order to reinforce the unity of the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people.

New Oil Well in Al-Mafraq Area Begins Production

JN181113 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 18 Jul 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — *AD-DUSTUR* has learned that Jordanian experts from the Natural Resources Authority have discovered a new oil well. This well is the second in an area approximately 45 km northeast of Al-Mafraq. Given the name Qurmah 2, the well began producing oil the day before yesterday. The production capacity of this well is 800 barrels per day [bpd] which is more than the capacity of the first well, given the name Qurmah 1, which the government announced it had discovered early this year. The capacity of this well is 600 bpd.

AD-DUSTUR has also learned that the first well is located 1,994 meters away from the second one, and that Jordanian experts have decided to consider it an exploratory well for a specific period of time. Should the current flow continue, it will then be considered commercially viable. A meeting attended by senior officials was held at the Natural Resources Authority yesterday. They discussed the preliminary data pertaining to this new discovery, and decided to hold another meeting next Thursday.

Reportage on Nabih Birri's Visit to Moscow

Attends Anti-Zionism Meeting

JN181949 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Moscow, 18 Jul (SANA) — The Anti-Zionism committee held a private meeting here today under General Dragunskiy, chairman of the committee. The meeting was attended by Nabih Birri, minister of water resources, electricity, justice; minister of state for the south and reconstruction; and leader of the Amal movement, currently visiting the USSR.

The committee discussed the situation in the Middle East and Lebanon in light of repeated Israeli aggressions against and violations of human rights in southern Lebanon and occupied Arab territories.

Voicing Soviet public opinion, the committee expressed full solidarity with the struggle of both the Arab people and the Lebanese nationalist forces against the Israeli occupiers and their attempts to threaten Lebanon's security and subject the country to partitioning.

The committee also expressed its support for the just Arab struggle to establish a durable peace in the Middle East — a peace that conforms with the United Nations and world community's resolutions.

The committee requested the world community to shoulder its responsibility in order to expel the Zionist invaders from the Lebanese territories without preconditions and to work to establish just peace in the Middle East.

Birri valued the friendly USSR's role and principled stands that aim at supporting Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity and at establishing a just peace in the Middle East and the world.

Received by Soviet Official

NC190616 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri was yesterday received in Moscow by the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet and member of the CPSU Central Committee.

The discussions dealt with the Lebanese situation. Minister Birri concentrated on the question of the south and the Israeli practices against its sons. He requested the holding of a special session of the World Parliamentarians Conference to discuss this issue.

Minister Birri participated in the meetings of the Soviet Committee for Investigating Israel's Crimes. He made a speech in which he reviewed the sufferings of the sons of the south under Israeli occupation since 1978. He lauded the Soviet Union's principled stand of safeguarding Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

David Dragunskiy, chairman of the World Committee Against Zionism, made a speech affirming the Soviet Union's support for the valiant struggle of the Lebanese people against the Israeli occupiers and against the attempts to partition Lebanon.

A resolution adopted at the meeting says that the termination of the illegal occupation of south Lebanon is a demand by the entire world community and that the solution of this problem on the basis of the UN Security Council and UN General Assembly resolutions is in keeping with the interests of establishing just and firm peace in the Middle East.

Minister Birri is scheduled to hold a news conference at the Lebanese Embassy in Moscow today to explain the situation in the south, particularly Israel's expulsion of Ulema Muhammad Hasan al-Amin from the south and the danger of this course, which conforms with the attempts to detach the south from the other parts of the homeland.

Holds News Conference

NC190953 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] The Amal Movement leadership contacted Moscow a short while ago. It was informed that lawyer Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs and minister of water and electrical resources and justice, has been holding a news conference for half an hour now at the Lebanese Embassy in Moscow.

This is a special conference which Minister Birri held immediately after having been informed that Ulema Muhammad Hasan al-Amin had been deported from Sidon. The conference is attended by a large crowd of reporters and foreign news agency correspondents. Minister Birri explained at the conference the situation in the south in detail and Israeli practices from the start of the Israeli invasion until now. He also explained the deportation of strugglers and clergy men by the occupation forces. He also referred to these forces' raids and attacks on villages and the cutting of trees and groves as an Israeli attempt to strike at the Lebanese economy in the south.

At 1400 Moscow time, 1300 Beirut time, Minister Birri will attend a luncheon in the presence of four Soviet ministers, including the ministers of culture and justice. At 1800, Birri will meet with Arab and foreign diplomats at the Lebanese Embassy to explain to them the situation in the south.

It is recalled that Minister Birri met yesterday with the chairman of the Supreme Soviet Council of Nationalities [as heard] and discussed with him the need to strengthen the UNIFIL and to increase its effectiveness.

Soviet Reportage on Birri Visit to Moscow

For Soviet reportage on the visit of the Amal delegation to the USSR, led by Minister Nabih Birri, including its meeting with A.E. Voss, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet of Nationalities, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 19 July Soviet Union *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Junblatt Discusses Situation, Peace With Israel

NC181759 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1645 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Minister Walid Junblatt has declared that the present situation is only temporary and that the fighting could resume and that America, with the help of Israel, could return to redestroy the gains realized by patriotic forces.

We will fight to claim our demands and to get the liberation of south Lebanon from Israeli occupation, he said.

In his address to his followers, Minister Junblatt affirmed that he wished to set up training camps in the mountain during the coming phase. How can there be peace with Israel? Junblatt finally said: No to a peace agreement, no to negotiations, and no to recognition of the Hebrew state.

Urges Training for Fighters

NC190601 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Minister Walid Junblatt has urged his fighters to set up training camps in the mountain so that they can use all types of arms. He said they possess many up-to-date weapons but need fighters.

Addressing a group of Progressive Socialist Party fighters, Junblatt said that Lebanon is passing through an armistice phase and that fighting could be resumed. Junblatt said: A political battle has begun. We will struggle to achieve our political demands and the liberation of the south. We will not lay down our arms before we achieve our demands, particularly the abolition of political sectarianism.

After recalling the Nasirite's three no's — no to a peace treaty, no to negotiations, and no to recognition of Israel, Junblatt said: We are Progressive Socialists, not Druzes.

Minister Joseph Skaf on Hostage Problem, Media

NC181628 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 16-22 Jul 84 pp 34-37

[By Claude Khuri]

[Text] Information and Acting Interior Minister Joseph Skaf has warned that angry relatives of the 4,000 to 5,000 people reported kidnaped by the rival Lebanese militias may resort to revenge killings if their kinsmen do not show up when hostages who are still alive are released.

The hostage issue, he told *MONDAY MORNING* in a private interview, may thus upset the security plan under which the Lebanese Army took control of Greater Beirut from Christian and Moslem militias two weeks ago, and last week reunified the capital by reopening three new crossings between its Christian eastern and mainly-Moslem western sectors and allowed the resumption of normal operations at the Beirut Port and Airport.

The security plan would receive a welcome boost if the Lebanese media were to exercise "self-censorship," Skaf said. But the minister of information could give no firm promise on when the television news would be reunified or illegal radio stations closed down.

At its meeting last Wednesday, the Cabinet decided on a program to obtain the release of hostages and formed a high-level committee to follow up the issue, which has already led to widespread protests by the Moslem captives' families, who closed east-west crossings with burning tires and boulders for four days and blocked access to the international airport, delaying the application of the security plan.

The protesters later decided to stage a sit-in at the headquarters of Sunnite Mufti Shaykh Hasan Khalid, while in East Beirut, relatives of those kidnaped briefly occupied the television station last Tuesday, forcing a delay of the evening news bulletin until they had read a statement in which they demanded the release of all hostages.

Talking to me on Tuesday, Skaf confirmed that "more than 4,000 to 5,000 people" had been reported kidnaped or missing by their relatives, whereas the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) had reported seeing "fewer than 200" of those. At one point, a decision was taken to free all hostages and to set up a commission made up of members of the all-party security committee, Hisham Sha'ar and two aides, and representatives of the families of the missing and to enlist the help of the ICRC, the Lebanese Red Cross, Boy Scouts, and Civil Defense volunteers to go and search for hostages, he said. Then, the world spread that there would be an "exchange" of hostages and some families said they wanted to have the bodies of those captives who had been murdered, Skaf went on.

Education and Labor Minister Salim al-Huss, who together with Skaf attended meetings on the hostage issue with the security committee, held the view that the commission should be set up and all hostages released at once, Skaf said. But other ministers in the national unity government opposed such a move, warning that it could thwart the security plan "because a person who knows that his son has been killed could wait for a Christian (traveling through) the airport and kill him, and another could kill Shi'ite workers at the Beirut Port," he added. These ministers suggested that the issue be handled in stages, Skaf said, noting that the hostage issue had been politicized.

"Why should they (political factions) come and force the closure of shops in Moslem districts?" he wondered in a reference to a general shutdown in West Beirut last Monday. "And now, the Palestinians are raising their voices and asking about those who disappeared in (the Palestinian refugee camp of) Sabra."

So could all this put the security plan into question? I asked Minister Skaf.

"Of course," he replied. "I told you, mademoiselle: If a Christian goes to the airport and is killed and if a (Moslem) worker goes to the port and is killed..."

And what would be the fate of Christians living in West Beirut?

"That's it; it will be worse," Skaf told me. "They will be an easy prey. They (captives' families) will not kill Christians in the eastern sector, but they will kill Christians in the western sector.

"Somebody was telling me that man has two instincts: an animal instinct and a moral instinct. Sometimes the animal instinct can be stronger than the moral instinct, and there are outbursts of anger and vengeance."

Skaf recalled that during one of the recent Cabinet sesions at the presidential summer palace in Bikfayya, a girl told Shi'ite Minister Nabih Birri and Druze Minister Walid Junblatt that her 14-year-old brother had disappeared in the mountain town of Bhamdun. He quoted Junblatt, whose forces took control of the Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh mountains in heavy fighting with Christian militias last September, as saying that no hostages were alive any longer. "I have only one hostage, named Elie Khalaf, who is alive, and I will set him free," Skaf quoted Junblatt as saying.

"In any event," Skaf went on, "I was told that 800 Druze and 700 Christians have been killed. What are we going to do with their families? There will be acts of revenge."

If the hostage issue can foil the Beirut security plan, the Lebanese media can do a lot to help stabilize the situation in the country, Skaf is convinced.

Noting that he had already met with the head of the Editors' Union, Milhim Karam, and press syndicate chief Muhammad Ba'labakki to discuss the application of "self-censorship" by the media, the information minister said that several proposals had been put forward at these meetings and that he would relay them to the full Cabinet.

"I think it (self-censorship) is a good method because we are relying on journalists whose civic sense is, in my judgment, stronger than their desire to pursue private interests."

Asked if a 1977 decree introducing press censorship would be rescinded, Skaf said this was not up to him alone and should be discussed within the Council of Ministers, which was now too busy dealing with urgent security matters.

"Now, we are going to put self-censorship to the test and I hope it will succeed," he added. "I rely a lot on our friends Messrs Karam and Ba'labakki, and as of today, we are going to start a drive to convince various editors-in-chief to exercise a kind of self-censorship and not pour oil on the flames. As I said at one of the meetings during which we discussed self-censorship, a word can heal or kill."

Wasn't the written press used as a scapegoat by being sometimes submitted to censorship, whereas private illegal radio stations which reach the masses at every minute of the day were left free to carry on their war of words? I asked.

Skaf assured me that he and other ministers had tried to persuade the various factions to tone down verbal attacks emanating from their respective radio stations, "and I think they have been toned down. (Verbal attacks) are not scathing as they used to be in the past, and I hope things will get even better as time goes by."

The information minister agreed that the audiovisual media could be more dangerous than the written press, but he said that since the rival facations "needed" their radio stations, he had serious doubts that they would close them down in the immediate future.

I told Minister Skaf that the Lebanese people had probably grown tired of jumping from one television channel to the other to get a clear picture of the situation in the country.

The semi-official television split in two shortly after Moslem militias wrested control of West Beirut from the Lebanese Army last February, and despite the reunification of Beirut, two different news bulletins are still being broadcast at the same time each night.

Skaf expressed the hope that now that the security plan has been put into effect, a previous agreement to unify the TV news would be applied. But, noting that experience had taught him not to set deadlines, he declined to predict when the "reunification" of TV news would be achieved or private radio stations closed down.

"Unfortunately, this is not up to me, and it is not up to two parties, either. It is up to several parties," he said.

Pressed to be more specific on the television issue, Skaf said that the reunification of the TV news depended mainly on the Shi'ite Amal Movement headed by Nabih Birri. But he repeated that steps were being taken to settle the matter and that efforts must also be launched to "persuade" faction leaders to close down their radio stations.

Skaf stressed that the unification of the media was a political question. "With the agreement of the leaders serving in the government, we will lay down the guidelines for the unification of the media," he assured me.

Skaf, a native of the Christian town of Zahlah in the eastern Al-Biqa' Valley and leader of the Zahlah-western Al-Biqa' bloc in parliament, noted that television broadcasts were reaching neither the Syrian-controlled Al-Biqa' nor the Israeli-occupied south.

In the case of the Al-Biqa', the relay station in Al-Knaysah had been destroyed when the Israelis bombarded the area in 1982. As to the south, it is obvious that the relay station is located in an area under Israeli occupation, and the cost of equipment which would allow direct transmission is prohibitive, he said.

But Skaf was more optimistic on the long-standing plans to increase the power of the official radio. He told me that contacts had already been undertaken to that end with the Thomson Company, funds were available, and work would be launched to "reach (Lebanese) emigrants everywhere."

Turning to some of his responsibilities as acting interior minister, Skaf said a plan was under study to increase the size of the Internal Security Forces (ISF) to between 17,000 and 24,000 men so that they can replace the Army in maintaining law and order in the country.

The situation in Zahlah was improving, he said. During the feast marking the end of the Moslem fasting month of Ramadan, 500 Moslems went to Wadi al-'Arayish to have lunch or dinner, "and some Syrians are also shopping (in Zahlah). Confidence has been restored." Skaf warned against a repeat of the "mountain war" in the Israeli-occupied western Al-Biqa'. He said he had personally exerted intensive efforts to ward off a split along sectarian lines in the area, adding that there was now a "committee of wise men" to resolve disputes on the spot.

Now that the Beirut security plan had been put into effect, the government would turn to the 'Alayh and Ash-Shuf mountains and try to put in motion a similar plan "around the area," Skaf told me. It would then work on reopening major highways to the north, the south and the Al-Biqa', "but the big problem is the liberation of the south."

When the government settles down to the huge task of reconstruction, financial assistance from friendly countries will be badly needed, and Skaf believes that it should come within the context of a "Marshal Plan" for Lebanon — such as the "Marshal Plan" implemented in Europe in the wake of World War II.

Skaf estimated the damage inflicted during the past nine years of warfare at 100 billion Lebanese pounds. If Lebanon cannot find the money inside the country, it will have to rely on grants from friendly countries or on loans extended by external sources such as the Kuwaiti Development Fund, the Arab Development Fund and others, he said, adding that the reconstruction of Lebanon would take 10 to 20 years.

Western Europe, the United States, the World Bank and particularly the oil-rich Arab states had all pledged to do their share in the reconstruction of Lebanon, Skaf said. They would extend long-term loans with minimal interest rates, he revealed.

"But reconstruction will come at a third stage — after the restoration of security and the enacting of political reforms for the new Lebanon," he remarked.

The rival warlords in Prime Minister Rashid Karami's government have overcome their mutual suspicions, Skaf went on, expressing confidence that cooperation among ministers would be the order of the day.

The "new Lebanon" will not be along the lines of the post-1943 Lebanon, Skaf said. "There will be a Lebanon where all Lebanese from all sides will be brought together to rule the country."

Defense Minister Abolishes Liaison Committee

NC181627 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Information received by the Voice of Lebanon says that Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran issued a decision abolishing the military committee in the [Israeli] Liaison Office in Ad-Dubayyah. This means all Lebanese officers and soldiers working in the committee will be withdrawn. The defense minister referred this decision to the military authorities for immediate implementation.

Decision Communicated to Israelis

NC182049 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Colonel Fawzi Abu Farhat was summoned to the Army Command this evening and was briefed on Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran's decision to abolish the military commitee at the liaison office in Ad-Dubayyah and to withdraw all Lebanese military personnel working on the committee.

Col Abu Farhat in turn communicated the text of the decision to Israeli officials in Ad-Dubayyah. The Lebanese military personnel will join the Defense Ministry.

Military Council Appoints New Brigade Commanders

NC190754 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] It has been learned that the Military Council, which met yesterday under General Michel 'Awn, decided to fill in the vacant posts in the 3d, 6th, 7th and 8th Brigades. It decided to appoint Colonel 'Adnan al-Khatib, commander of the 3d Brigade, to replace Colonel Nizar 'Abd al-Qadir; Colonel 'Abd al-Halim Kanj, commander of the 6th Brigade, to replace Colonel Lufti Jabir, who was appointed a member of the Military Council; Colonel Nur ash-Shaluhi, commander of the 7th Brigade, to replace Colonel 'Usam Abu Jamrah, who was appointed member of the Military Council; and Colonel Salim Kallas, commander of the 8th Brigade, to replace the Army commander.

The Military Council also decided to appoint Colonel Yahya Ra'd, commander of the 2d Brigade, to replace Brigadier General Suhayl Darghus and Colonel Ghassan Wujd, commander of the 9th Brigade, to replace Colonel Munir Mir'i. The council abolished the 4th Brigade which was dispersed in western Ash-Shahhar.

The council also decided to set up a new brigade, namely the 11th Brigade, under the command of Colonel Amin al-Qadi, while the 1st Brigade will remain under the command of Brigadier General Ibrhaim Shahin, the 5th Brigade under the command of Colonel Khalil Kan'an, and the 10th Brigade under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Nasim 'Id.

All these appointments are awaiting a decree which is expected to be issued in the next few hours.

Israelis Reinforce Positions in Al-Biqa'

NC190645 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] The Lebanese National Resistance continues its operations against Israeli enemy forces in the south. An Israeli military spokesman yesterday admitted that an Israeli soldier was killed and two others were wounded during an attack against an Israeli post near the coastal city of Tyre in the occupied south. The national fighters yesterday attacked an Israeli patrol on Wadi Jilu Road near Jwayya. They attacked another patrol near the southern entrance of 'Adlun in Az-Zahrani District. They

fired rockets, hitting and destroying a military jeep and killing or wounding all of its occupants. An Israeli helicopter was seen removing the casualties.

Israel confronts these operations by raiding villages and arresting many inhabitants, as was the case in Ansariyah following the successful operation which resistance men launched against an Israeli patrol near the township. The same night of this operation, national resistance men attacked an Israeli post in the Al-'Aqbiyah area on the coastal Sidon-Tyre road.

In western Al-Biqa', Israeli forces imposed a night curfew in all villages near the front. They threatened that they will fire without warning at anyone who violates the curfew.

The Israelis surrounded the township of Ar-Rafid again. They brought a large number of forces and vehicles. They raided the township and thoroughly searched houses after scattering their contents. Moreover, the occupation forces carried out a wide-scale rotation of their armored cars in the Al-Biqa' front. They reinforced their positions in Kamid al-Lawz and Jub Jannin with heavy tanks. They set up a new line along the confrontation lines with the Syrian forces in the eastern Al-Biqa'.

VOL Says Israeli Maneuvers in South Concluded

NC190943 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] The Israeli forces last night have concluded their maneuvers with live ammunition in the south, which began this month. Sources said that the Israeli forces used dozens of flares over Sidon and the Coastal Highway during maneuvers which were carried out in areas east of Sidon.

Security sources said that three places of business in the Al-'Aqbiyah area south of Sidon were damaged when three explosive devices, planted by unidentified persons, went off at dawn today.

VOL Reports Syrian-Israeli Exchange of Fire

NC190645 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Gunfire was exchanged on the Syrian-Israeli confrontation lines in the eastern area in Al-Biqa' on 17 July [date as heard]. The Syrian forces opened 130-mm artillery fire from 'Ayta al-Fakhkhar and Bayadir al-'Adas on the 'Anjar Hills and Al-Masna' up to Dayr al-'Asha'ir, while the Israelis opened 155-mm artillery fire from their positions in the Bakka and Yanta sector and in Jabal ad-Duhur above Bakka.

Meanwhile, Israeli forces continued digging trenches in the eastern Al-Biqa' plain, specifically near Ar-Rafid and Al-Muhaydithah, which constitutes a second defense line after the first defense line in Mdukha.

A similar situation is being witnessed on the Syrian side in the Al-Masna'-Shtawrah sector, in addition to the reinforcement of barriers along the same line.

Syrians Surround Wayval Camp in Al-Biqa'

NC181645 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Syrian forces in the Al-Biqa' continue to surround the Al-Jalil Wayval Camp after Syrian intelligence discovered that a strong pro-'Arafat trend has begun to emerge at the camp. In another development, Syrian forces expelled armed Hezbollah groups from Ba'labakk and transported them to special camps in areas far from the city.

Al-Maradah, Syrian Nationalists Exchange Hostages

NC190648 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0600 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] An exchange of kidnapped people took place between the Al-Maradah forces and the Syrian Social Nationalist Party at the Arab Deterrent Forces headquarters in Al-Haykaliyah in the Al-Kurah area last night. The exchange took place under the supervision of Brigadier General Zuhayr, commander of the Arab Deterrent Forces in the north. Meanwhile, the Deterrent Forces have completed their deployment in various towns and villages in Al-Kurah. Power and telephone lines are being repaired.

RFL Reports Tension in Tripoli After Clashes

NC190928 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Severe tension prevails in the Al-Kurah area between the Al-Maradah fighters and the Syrian occupation forces which are deploying new units brought from Al-Haykaliyah and from [troop] concentration points at Shikka Junction and other areas in Al-Batrun. It was reported that the Syrian forces have deployed its men in the outskirts of the Al-Quayti' area and in Al-Kurah opposite the Al-Batrun area.

Meanwhile, gunmen are still seen and tension continues in the Al-Qubbah area in Tripoli following this morning's clashes at the wheat market and Harat as-Sayyidh between gunmen of the Islamic Unification Movement and the Red Knights. Heavy and medium-caliber weapons were used in these clashes.

Rocket Fired at Lahd Militias in Sidon

NC190718 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] The correspondent of the National Agency for Information in Sidon reported this morning that a Lahd militia post at Martyrs Square in Sidon opened random fire in all directions last night. It also fired flares in the sky over the area. This action took place after a rocket was fired from an unknown source at the post. The militas deployed foot and vehicular patrols in the vicinity of Bawwabat al-Fawqa and the government house in Sidon because of their fear of fedayeen operations against them and against the Israeli enemy's patrols.

Khaddam, Jordan's Al-Fayiz Review Bilateral Relations

JN181244 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus — 'Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the Jordanian House of Representatives and head of the Jordanian delegation to the Arab parliamentary speakers' meetings which ended yesterday, met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus this morning.

A PETRA correspondent said that during the 1-hour meeting, the two sides reviewed the various issues in the Arab arena as well as bilateral relations.

At the end of their meetings in Damascus yesterday, the Arab parliamentary speakers expressed their support for the efforts that are being exerted to find a peaceful settlement of the Iraqi-Iranian dispute. They also stressed the need to guarantee the safety of ships in the Gulf region, and condemned the Iranian aggression against Saudi and Kuwaiti tankers.

Al-Asad Receives Jordanian Delegation

JN181940 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus — Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad this evening received the Jordanian parliamentary delegation, which has taken part in the meeting of the Arab parliament speakers, under Speaker of the House of Representatives 'Akif al-Fayiz, and attending representatives Walid Salah, Dhuqan al-Hindawi, Dr Sami Judah, Marwan Al-Humud, Salman al-Qudah, Farah Abu Jabir, Rizq al-Batayinah, and Dawud Sulayman Dawud.

In a statement to PETRA in Damascus, Al-Fayiz said that during the meeting, talks dealt with the situation and developments in the Arab region, the Iraq-Iran war, and the means to stop this bloodshed.

There was also a review of Jordanian-Syrian relations, and the dangers challenging the Arab nation in general. He added that talks were frank and clear on these issues. Al-Fayiz expressed his wish that the Arab ranks would unite so that the nation would be able to achieve its aims, especially concerning our central cause, the Palestinian cause. He stressed that if the Arabs unite, they will have a greater effect and will, consequently, be able to impose their opinion on the international community.

The meeting was also attended by Syrian People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi.

Vice President Khaddam Receives Lebanese Official

JN181046 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpt] In Damascus, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received at 1000 today Munir Abu Fadil, deputy speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies. The talks dealt with the current situation in Lebanon.

Al-Asad Receives Munir Abu Fadil

JN181206 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Damascus — At 1300 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Munir Abu Fadil, deputy speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies. The talks during the meeting dealt with the situation in the region and the situation in the Lebanese arena.

Abu Fadil expressed appreciation of Syria's principled stands in Lebanon and its help for the Lebanese people's efforts to guarantee their security and protect their unity and territorial integrity.

President al-Asad stressed Syria's determination to extend every possible help to fraternal Lebanon's efforts to liberate its territory, guarantee the Lebanese citizen's security, and rebuild Lebanon. The president said that Syria will stand at Lebanon's side in the future just as it stood at its side in the past.

Vice President Addresses University Students in Latakia

JN181847 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Vice President Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah met with the students of Martyr Wajih al-Hasan Camp in Tishrin University in Latakia this morning. The meeting was attended by Wahib Tannus, Regional Command member and head of the Higher Education and Students Offices; Yusuf al-Ahmad, deputy head of the Students Regional Office; Comrade Major General Hasan Rida Shahwan, director of the University Training Department; and Hamid Hasan, president of the National Union of Syrian Students.

At the beginning of the meeting, the vice president conveyed the greetings of Comrade Leader Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party and president of the republic, to the students. He then reviewed the current political situation in the Arab region, and Syria's role in confronting the hostile imperialist plans and in leading the Arab struggle.

The vice president also stressed our nation's inevitable victory over its enemies regardless of the brutal imperialist-Zionist onslaught against it. He also reviewed Syria's historic, principled positions under President Hafiz al-Asad against the hostile plans to harm Syria's position, and its confrontation of the colonialist ambitions aimed at dominating our Arab nation's potentials and harming its honor and dignity. At the end of the meeting, the students cheered President Hafiz al-Asad.

TISHRIN Underlines Syria's Central Role in Mideast

PM181329 Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 14 Jul 84 pp 1,11

[Chief Editor 'Amid Khuli article: "The Solution, the Settlement, and the 'Right of Veto'"]

[Excerpts] Damascus nowadays is the scene of intensive and vigorous political activity covering all aspects of Arab politics and

hot issues at the center of which, of course, is the Arab-Zionist conflict with all its regional and international implications.

Damascus' role has developed from being the capital of Arab steadfastness, to the capital of strategic balance, and now to the capital of Arab politics which in effect is the capital of Arab salvation and national hope. Any serious political move toward any honorable and just solution emanate from it and converge in it.

On the strategic level Syria would not have achieved this great national weight and central regional role without having a clear view of the dimensions of the conflict, the ideology and thinking of the enemy, and the ways to confront him.

We should realize here the historical importance of the principle of strategic balance which President Hafiz al-Asad has adopted and which he has been implementing so that we can understand what this balance means and what forms it has assumed within the strategic structure that has now turned Syria into the Arab and regional center of gravity. It is the one that decides or, at least, it is the major partner in any decision taken on the area.

Syria would not have had the right to "veto" the humiliating settlements proposed in the Arab arena if it did not have the strategic right of "veto" and if did not build its military strategy on the basis of comprehensive strategic balance and so be able to thwart all the proposed settlements and propose in their place the principle of solutions. The difference between solutions and settlements is vast. Damascus has thus become the capital of solutions and not of settlements.

As a result the Arab option in Lebanon has won and other U.S. and Zionist options have failed. We shall implement this option in Lebanon with all it takes to implement it so that Lebanon — both people and territory — will once again become united. There will be no compromise, hesitation, or favoring of one party at the expense of another or at the expense of the Arab solution for Lebanon. All concerned have been informed accordingly and all know full well what Syria means.

Clearly the same thing applies to the PLO and its option for an Arab solution that is far removed from deviations and surrender. The militant Palestinian factions know full well the difference between solution and capitulationist settlement. This is the principle that governs the Syrian decision and the militant Palestinian decision with regard to the Palestinian problem, which reject all such settlements.

Whoever wants to run after humiliating settlements and Zionist options and their Jordanian derivatives should know very well the fate of such options. There is no dialogue with any party that agrees with, contributes to, serves the course of settlements, or goes along with the logic of surrender and deviation from the national objective however the parties try to philosophize about surrender or paint a bright picture of treason.

This, of course, applies to all the current intensive efforts in the area, efforts that, in their present objective, center on achieving a settlement and not a comprehensive solution. The current French move is based on a settlement and not a comprehensive solution, the solution that the Arabs aspire for, because it emanates from the traditional French stand which is derived from and follows the U.S. stand.

Press on Lebanese Security, 'Enemy' Attempts

JN181044 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 18 Jul 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In an article about the importance of implementing the rest of the security plan in Lebanon, *AL-BA'TH* says: Israel and its agents made several attempts to hamper the implementation of the security plan in Beirut. However, the Lebanese Government's insistence on this plan and the popular consensus to implement it have foiled the Israeli and agent attempts. Beirut is today enjoying complete calm. It has even started to rebuild what was destroyed by the war. There is no doubt that it is very important to implement the rest of the plan, particularly in the mountain and the strip between Beirut and Tripoli.

Syria, which has supported the unity of Lebanon — land and people — since the very first day, asserts now that it is more prepared to help in any effort that can speed up the implementation of the security plan. In the meantime, Syria will not allow any side whatsoever to tamper with the fraternal country and its national and pan-Arab interests.

Addressing the Lebanese patriots, the newspaper *TISHRIN* says: All the Lebanese patriots are required to reckon the fact that the homeland's internal and external enemies are observing the situation and following up the course of events. The moment these enemies find a suitable opportunity they will interfere and split the national ranks, and they will do so on the largest possible scale.

It has become clear that these enemies have actually started to drive wedges between the patriots by depicting matters contrary to their true nature and by announcing their readiness to change the political equations and to correct what they term as the blances of power in some areas. They want to [words indistinct] the fire of sedition, after it has died out, by sowing division and discord and by creating an atmosphere of caution, anxiety, and misconception. If their plan succeeds in starting the fire again, they will enlarge it through direct participation and will then embark on another phase to exhaust the strength of all the patriots all over Lebanon.

Therefore, the first duty of the nationalists can be summed up in closing up ranks, bolstering common understanding, and foiling all enemy attempts to split the national ranks. We greatly hope that all patriots will rise to the level of responsibility and will return to principles with a spirit of national genuineness for the sake of Lebanon — the homeland, the future, and the destiny.

IDF Announces Interception of Lebanese Ship

TA181628 Tel Aviv ITIM In Hebrew 1622 GMT 18 Jul 84

["Announcement by the IDF Spokesman" — ITIM headline]

[Text] [No dateline as received] A merchant ship called *Ula* and bearing the Lebanese flag was intercepted a few days ago by a routine Israeli Navy patrol opposite the Lebanese coast.

An investigation of the captain and crew showed that the boat was involved in an attempt by terrorists belonging to Fatah ('Arafat supporters and loyalists) to perpetrate a mass terrorist attack along Israel's coasts by landing a terrorist craft from the sea.

The boat was hired by Fatah activists in Tripoli to serve as the "mother ship" to transport four terrorists on rubber craft. The attack was planned on instructions from the most senior Fatah elements.

Four terrorists were lowered into a rubber craft on the night of 21-22 June and sailed in the direction of the Israeli coast. The attempt was aborted, and the terrorist squad apparently returned to Tripoli. The investigation of the ship's crew is continuing.

Identity of Crew Reported

TA181640 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1630 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the intercepted Lebanese ship's crew consisted of eight seamen, four of whom are Syrian citizens, two Lebanese citizens, and two Egyptian citizens. Their interrogation is continuing.

Further Comment

TA181721 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1635 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Military correspondent Shmu'el Tal report — live]

[Excerpt] Regarding the interception of the Lebanese boat, it is not yet clear why the terrorist attempt that would have been carried out by the Lebanese boat's passengers failed. It may have failed because the terrorists disembarked on the rubber craft too far from the coast. The terrorist squad apparently returned to Tripoli. The ship is in Israel, and the investigation of the crew is continuing.

The ship has a 750-ton capacity and its owners are Lebanese. It should be noted that the method of checking suspected vessels by the Israeli Navy on the high seas has been examined by lawyers, who believe this method is anchored in international law and is based on clauses relating to self-defense.

We also want to note that by checking suspected vessels the Navy has actually succeeded in moving the sailing route of vessels, among which are suspect vessels, farther away from the Israeli coast.

Air Force Commander on Arab Military Power

TA181653 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Interview with Major General 'Amos Lapidot, Air Force commander, by military correspondent Doron Rosenblum and 'Arad Nir on the occasion of "Air Force Day" on 17 July, place not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Rosenblum] Gen Lapidot, with your permission let us discuss the adversary: The air forces Israel must contend with, first of all Syria, which suffered a severe blow in the Peace for Galilee war, yet has rebuilt its air force and air defense system. No doubt lessons have been learned from the defeat they suffered 2 years ago.

[Lapidot] That is correct. Incidentally, this is a natural process that is actually undertaken by everyone after each confrontation, war, or conflict. But whereas in the more distant past we knew that as a result of their culture and the Arab tradition they were disinclined truly to learn all the real lessons and admit mistakes, nowadays the situation in Syria has changed somewhat. We know that the Syrians have really drawn internal conclusions about the fact that they were defeated by the Israeli Air Force, and they recognize this fact. They have been trying to rehabilitate themselves, learn the lessons, and improve. Here they have received massive aid from the Soviets both in the realm of retrospective analysis, expert advice, and debriefings about what took place — including a reenaction of the events that led to their defeat — as well as an evaluation of the Syrians' equipment. They are receiving various types of aid. This, therefore, makes the process a much more serious one, and certainly from our standpoint it is causing more concern. We are following this, and facing up to it.

[Nir] Part of that process means facing up to the defense systems. They have received SAM-5's — which although not new are relatively new in the region, and only recently were included in the Syrian deployment — as well as newer, other types of antiaircraft missiles. How is the Air Force tackling this problem?

[Lapidot] On this, one must first be precise about one fact having to do with the SAM-5's. The first SAM-5's were brought to Syria approximately 18 months ago, and are both maintained and controlled by the Soviets themselves. In fact, today the entire operation of these systems, and the policy of opening fire, are controlled by the Soviets. They are the ones who evaluate the situation and make the decision.

[Nir] So that the decision on whether or not to launch an antiaircraft missile is made by the Soviets, not the Syrians?

[Lapidot] To the best of our knowledge, the operators of the systems are Russian, as are the commanders, as are those who make the decision whether to hit the button or not. From our point of view that greatly changes the situation as well as the nature of the threat. Yet we definitely believe that at some point in the future this picture will change, and things might be handed over to the Syrians. We must be prepared for this. In principle, our way of handling the matter is no different from the method we employ in combating other types of threats.

[Rosenblum] The Syrians are continuing to equip themselves with antitank helicopters. What are our capabilities in this sphere?

[Lapidot] There are two aspects to this matter: First, we too are being equipped with antitank helicopters and other types of helicopters intended for active offensive participation in ground battles. In general, as is the accepted general world trend, we believe that this is a new age today, in which helicopters are introduced into close combat on the ground. Naturally the entire Western world is engaged in developing combat means and doctrines on this. However, this is only one angle.

The second angle is how to face up to this. Just as we face up to other aerial threats, as a generalization I would say that we have two types of answers to this. The first is air defense with the help of our fighter planes, which are supposed to intercept and shoot down all sorts of objects that fly with hostile intent. This category can also include the enemy's helicopter gunships. We also have the other means, which are the anti-aircraft systems of all types, be they surface-to-air missiles — such as the Hawk system or other systems — or various types of artillery. So again, as a generalization, we are trying to apply this two-pronged answer to the threat of the enemy's helicopter gunships.

As everyone knows, we have antiaircraft units that are easily combined with the ground forces and the IDF's ground divisions — and are furthermore intended to defend them — and they possess a variety of weapons, not just one type. As I said before, here too we analyze precisely the nature and size of the threat from its operational and technical aspects, such as the effective range of those weapons, how long we are exposed, and their behavior.

We try to use the best solution both in terms of what we already have and in terms of developing future weapons that will provide an even better response to this threat.

[Rosenblum] Now to Saudi Arabia: Recently the United States sold that country Stinger shoulder-fired missiles, and Israel firmly opposed the deal. What threat can these missiles — whose range is not too great, are launched from a shoulder position, and are not considered state of the art — present to Israel?

[Lapidot] The term "threat to Israel" is a bit too bombastic to describe this situation and this problem. The Stinger, as you said, is really a shoulder-fired missile, the new shoulder-fired missiles that are the newer generation of the Redeye. It is better, and based on improved technology. Its velocity is greater and it has a slighly longer range, although not by much. It is better. Yet this is no dramatic revolution. Of course this is not a long-range missile like the SAM-5, which covers vast areas, but really is intended to provide immediate, individual defense to forces on the battlefield. This is the Stinger. The threat to Israel — and I said that this term might be too strong, perhaps — falls within the category of the growing threat that the enemy's armies and air forces are improving on the whole. They are improving slowly but surely, first covering one area and then another. So today they may improve their long-range missiles, tomorrow improve the short-range missiles, and so on and so forth, and then they incorporate longer-range aircraft.

If you improve a little bit in every dimension and in every weapon, all in all the entire improvement is very great. We, of course, are trying to oppose this and prevent these developments from taking place, because taken all together, they constitute a greater threat to us.

One other aspect that is related to these missiles is the danger, the possibility, that the missiles will ultimately end up in the hands of the terrorist organizations, the Palestinians who carry out hostile activity. Then, of course, the threat becomes much more concrete and tangible, and far more immediate....

[Nir — interrupting] In addition to this, Saudi Arabia has also recently been given fuel tanks that increase the flight range of its F-15's. How is this viewed here?

[Lapidot] Technically, these fuel tanks add a very substantial range to these aircraft. In fact, with these additional fuel tanks, the F-15 has broader operational range than any other fighter aircraft in the region, including those that we have.

This is an objective fact one cannot deny, and is certainly a threat. The Saudi-American reply given to us on this matter is that the F-15's are stationed very far from our borders, including their range with the additional fuel tanks, and that they are intended to defend the Persian Gulf, not be used against us, and other such answers. These are political answers that are totally unacceptable to us. These aircraft can be stationed one day in one base, and within 2 hours can already be at another base. We believe that in a war that includes several Arab countries against us, it will certainly stand to reason for Saudi Arabia to join in as well, in which case there is to my mind hardly any doubt that it will try to use its F-15's against us, and will militarily-tactically do what is best to operate them against us effectively. Thus the political answers I mentioned before do not calm us at all, since all in all this is definitely a threat we must take into account.

[Nir] Over the past few years, the noticeable trend in Arab countries has been to equip themselves with Western arms, including fighter aircraft. Does this have any effect on the superiority of the Israeli Air Force, when contemplating and weighing a possible confrontation between it and foreign air forces?

[Lapidot] Actually, when we go out to fight, we never worry about what aircraft come from the West, and what aircraft come from the East. Possibly, in real terms, the pilot checks to see which aircraft enter the battlefront from the West and which from the East. But we are not talking about this. Again, what counts most is the operational capability of these aircraft, and no less important is the competence of the pilots flying them, but this is another story.

[Rosenblum] To sum up this chapter of the interview, on the Arab air forces, would it be possible to point to a new trend among them?

[Lapidot] Yes and no. There is a trend to modernize them, expand, and incorporate new weapons systems. In this sense this is nothing revolutionary nor a novelty. Once could say on this trend of modernizing and introducing more sophisticated control,

communications, and electronic warfare means, that there is at present extensive activity in the various Arab air forces, particularly in the Syrian Air Force. In that respect, a sharp shift can be discerned.

[Nir] Do you mean that if there is an aerial confrontation in the future, the Israeli Air Force will have a greater problem than in the past?

[Lapidot] Here, too, it is a bit difficult to reply. There will be new problems we have not encountered in the past. But if I look back on every period in the past, there were new problems then too.

[Rosenblum] The Syrians have again reinforced their presence in Lebanon. Can this interfere with our aerial activity there?

[Lapidot] Somewhat. The Syrians bring air-defense units to every place they enter. We check the Syrian presence near every target we are about to attack for two purposes: First, we are not interested in hitting the Syrians when we plan to strike at terrorists; and second, we look into the threats the Syrian forces and antiaircraft units present to the mission.

Jerusalem Against Closing Lebanon Liaison Unit

TA181925 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Political sources in Jerusalem have said that Israel has no intention of closing its liaison unit in Ad-Dubbiyah, a suburb of Beirut. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that in the last few months many announcements about Lebanon wanting to close the Israeli representation have been made, but in Israel they were viewed as an internal Lebanese Government struggle concerning its future relations with Israel. News agencies in Beirut reported tonight that Lebanon has officially notified Israel of its decision to close the office in Lebanon. The Lebanese defense minister instructed officers in the office to close it. This office is actually the only official connection between Israel and the Lebanese Government.

Lebanese Request Confirmed

TA190617 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Jul 84 p 1

[Diplomatic correspondent David Landau report]

[Excerpt] Israel has received no formal notification from Lebanon that it must close down its diplomatic mission in Ad-Dubbiyah, near Beirut, informed sources said last night.

But there is a feeling here that such notification could well be imminent.

The sources, therefore, tended to take seriously Lebanese media reports last night that the Lebanese defence minister had demanded that Israel remove its personnel.

In Beirut, official and private radio stations announced that Defence Minister 'Adil 'Usayran ordered the office closed in a letter he handed to Col. Fawzi Abu Farhat, the head of the Lebanese liaison team, who in turn delivered it to the Israeli liaison officers. The announcement did not say exactly when the letter was delivered.

"Yes, they have requested it," said an Israeli official when contacted at the office by telephone. He refused to give his name or elaborate on what the office employees plan to do. "I am sorry. I have no more to say. No comment," he said.

Lebanese Leave Office

TA191216 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] It is reported from Beirut that the Lebanese Army representatives who work in the Israeli liaison office in Ad-Dubbiyah this afternoon began to evacuate their offices on the first floor of the building, collected files, and dismantled communication equipment. Voice of Lebanon reports that the evacuation will take place over 2 days. This morning it was reported that Lebanese soldiers continue to guard the Israeli representation in Ad-Dubbiyah.

Evacuation Report Incorrect

TA191307 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1236 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] The announcements made by the Voice of Lebanon Radio, according to which the people [as heard] in the Israeli representation in Ad-Dubbiyah started evacuating the building north of Beirut, are incorrect. Sources in the representation have told our Arab affairs correspondent Eldad Beck that despite the announcement made by the Lebanese defense minister yesterday, no evacuation has begun and the soldiers who are in charge of guarding it have not left.

Lubrani Comments

TA191114 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1108 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Interview with Uri Lubrani, coordinator of activities in Lebanon, by program moderator 'Oded Ben-'Ami and Arab affairs correspondent Aharon Barne'a — live in the studio]

[Text] [Ben-'Ami] Mr Lubrani, in the wake of the request to close the Israeli liaison office, the representation has been turned into an island in a sea of hostility or quasi-hostility — if one may say so — and there is no contact between it and this sea.

[Lubrani] This is totally inaccurate. At this moment — or to be more precise until the moment I left my office, about 5 minutes ago — the representation is operating as if nothing has happened; it is business as usual. We have not yet received any notice similar to what has been reported by the Lebanese media.

[Ben-'Ami] That is to say that the official statement or resolution by the Lebanese Government has not yet officially been received by the Israeli Government.

[Lubrani] No, so far it has not. This does not mean, however, that it will not be received in 5 minutes, 1 hour, or 1 day. I do not know and it is hard to tell.

[Ben-'Ami] Does that mean that the Israeli representation will actually have to close its gates?

[Lubrani] After we receive the notice, examine its contents, and see exactly what they want, then we will address this issue. I would not like to make any predictions in this context.

[Barne'a] Mr Lubrani, I would like to know: Why is it so important for Israel to maintain this representation in Beirut despite all the difficulties? Why should it not be in Israel's best interest simply to initiate this move rather than wait for some kind of statement from the Lebanese Government?

[Lubrani] I think this is one of the issues where it is better to play it by ear, just as with many other issues in Lebanon, rather than make assumptions which later turn out to be false. We have for a long time, for many months, heard that there are plans to reduce activities and close the representation, and so forth. Nothing happened for many months. Occasionally, more specific statements are issued, but again nothing happens. I am saying that something may happen within 1, 2, or 4 hours. To the best of my knowledge, however, this representation is more important to Lebanon than it is to Israel. We regarded this representation as a means of liaison between us and the Lebanese Government which would enable us to reach the most expansive and thorough possible arrangements regarding southern Lebanon. I have no doubt that if this representation cannot operate, such arrangements will involve many more difficulties and complications.

[Barne'a] What you are saying is that if the representation is closed, this will have an impact on the possibility of reaching security arrangements in southern Lebanon sooner?

[Lubrani] Definitely yes.

[Barne'a] Is it possible to transfer this representation elsewhere in Lebanon?

[Lubrani] It depends; there are many possibilities. This is not a matter of semantics. At stake is some kind of entity which links us and the Lebanese Government but with the lowest possible profile. The task of this entity was to conduct liaison on specific matters. Since the Lebanese Government unilaterally abrogated the 17 May agreement we have been coordinating specific matters related to maintaining an Israeli presence in Lebanon, that is, in southern Lebanon.

[Ben-'Ami] Sir, could you say your contacts and negotiations with various Lebanese groups are carried out only through the Israeli representation and the liaison office or do you have other channels to reach the official representatives of the Lebanese Government?

[Lubrani] Of course there are many channels but this is the most simple, logical, and shortest way.

[Ben-'Ami] Has the office been operating and active since May despite the unilateral Lebanese move?

[Lubrani] It has been operating; of course it has been operating.

[Barne'a] To sum up, I would like to hear your assessment of the background for the occasional Lebanese Government statements, including the one by Lebanese Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran several days ago to the effect that the Lebanese Government would support armed struggle against the IDF in southern Lebanon if a political arrangement for an IDF pullout is not found. Do you think this is really an outcome of the pressure exerted by the Damascus regime on Karami's government?

[Lubrani] I have no doubt about it. The current Lebanese Government operates and performs under Syrian inspiration, there is no doubt about it. Still, if we take the gist of your question — that is, the statement made by 'Adil 'Usayran — we should regard it as rhetoric stemming from the deep feeling of frustration afflicting the Lebanese Government regarding the Israeli presence in southern Lebanon. They know that, at this stage at least, they cannot promise us the minimal conditions which would enable our departure from southern Lebanon — namely, the security of our settlements in the Galilee. At the same time, there is no doubt that there is pressure from the southern part of the country — at least public pressure — to reach some sort of arrangement with us. There is no doubt that the restrictions — for example, the Syrian restriction that they cannot and are banned from talking directly to us — very much stand in their way.

UNIFIL Not Cooperating With S. Lebanon Army

TA190727 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Jul 84 p 3

[Excerpt] An-Naqurah, Lebanon — UN forces in south Lebanon are under orders not to cooperate with members of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army [SLA], a spokesman at UNIFIL headquarters here said this week.

"The de facto forces (UN jargon for the SLA) has no mandate from the legal Lebanese Government in Beirut, therefore we cannot relate to it as legitimate," said the spokesman, who insisted on anonymity. "Before we could do that, the Beirut government would have to give its official blessing, and we would have to get the appropriate change of orders from UN headquarters in New York."

Egyptians Cooperate in Search for Missing Girl

TA190958 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 Jul 84 pp 1, 15

[Arab affairs correspondent Shefi Gabay report]

[Excerpt] Egyptian security forces have begun searching for Miri Herzog, the 17-year-old Gedera girl who disappeared in the Sinai 6 weeks ago. This was told to the *MA'ARIV* correspondent by a top Egyptian source last night.

The source claims that if the girl really is in the Sinai, it will be hard to locate her in the Bedouin centers, because it is possible she became friendly with one of them or even married one, in which case she would have to cover her face with a veil.

According to the Egyptian source, Egypt has no information about the movements of the girl. "We have no interest in keeping secret any details concerning her movements. If we knew her whereabouts, we would have reported it," said the source. He added that it is possible that she left the Sinai.

Leaders Congratulate Fabius on Appointment

Ne'eman Message

TA181411 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1400 GMT 18 Jul 84

["Announcement by the spokesman for the Energy and Infrastructure Ministry" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Jerusalem, 18 Jul (ITIM) — Energy and Infrastructure Minister Prof Yuval Ne'eman has sent a congratulatory message to his French counterpart, Mr Laurent Fabius, on his appointtment as prime minister of France. Mr Fabius and Minister Ne'eman are personal friends, and the former was Ne'eman's guest when he last visited Israel 3 months ago. Similarly, Minister Ne'eman was the guest of Minister Fabius when he visited Paris last winter.

Minister Ne'eman today received a telephone call from the director general of the Energy Ministry, Mr Tanhum Gerizim, who is currently in Paris. He reported that great progress has been marked in bilaterial negotiations, so that one can safely assume that the agreement on scientific research cooperation between France and Israel will be signed soon. The agreement deals with the establishment of a national French-Israeli research association that will provide an umbrella for joint projects. Four French researchers have visited Israel in the past 6 months. They came to examine the possibility for electronics and computers as well as agricultural and medical cooperation.

Peres Telegram

TA181410 Tel Aviv ITIM In Hebrew 1345 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Tel Aviv, 18 Jul (ITIM) — This morning Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres sent a congratulatory telegram to new French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius, which contained the following words:

To Laurent Fabius:

Please accept my warm congratulations on your appointment as prime minister of France and my best wishes for success in this important post. I was deeply impressed by your vision, your personality and the wide knowledge you have displayed during our talks. I am convinced that you will succeed in coping with the big challenge which lies ahead of you.

[signed] Shim'on Peres

Editorial on Likud, Alignment Election Tactics

TA190725 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Jul 84 p 12

[Editorial: "The Use of Mr Begin"]

[Text] Though absent from the scene, Mr. Begin has been a leitmotif throughout the election campaign. The Likud managers have yearned for a good word, a gesture, anything from Mr. Begin which they could translate into public negotiable value. When, last week, he donated $100 to the coffers of the party, they convened a special press conference to commemorate the event.

But they have pined for more. A television appearance, or at least a radio statement, which they might then dub into their TV ads. They did not even dare hope for an actual public appearance.

Mr. Begin has kept his own counsel. He has remained secluded, enveloped in privacy. The reasons, whether physical, spiritual or political, or a combination of them all, are his own. Frustrated by his privacy, the Likud strategists, in their anxiety, have deployed even that for electoral purpose. They have sent a constant stream of signals through the press that Mr. Begin, any day, will emerge from seclusion and make the campaign gesture they so ardently desire.

These signals have had a dual effect. They have been a contrivance to link Mr. Begin's name to the Likud campaign even though he has kept distant, and they disarmed a gullible Labour Party, instilling it with the fear that any direct denunciation of Mr. Begin and his policies — which after all are the real cause of the severe national problems Labour decries — could provoke the retired premier out of his hermitage and thus do harm to Labour's campaign.

The Likud, with this ruse, has plainly kept Labour off balance. This goes a long way toward explaining the relative mildness of Labour's campaign. For it is difficult to criticize coherently and correctly the dead end and deadly directions to which the Likud has driven this country without placing responsibility where it belongs.

Obviously it is not seemly to target in on Mr. Begin, when the public assumes he is a broken man. This too has stayed Labour's hand. Perhaps in a final heavenly accounting Labour will get a good mark for its reticence.

But politics, and Israeli politics especially, is not a matter of heavenly accounts. In any case, the Likud has not been burdened by any such sensibilities. It has gone for the jugular, pouncing on Mr. Peres, as Mr. Begin did in 1981, as if he were Satan — an oppressive Ashkenazi Satan — incarnate. It has "eschewed" ethnic divisiveness by proclaiming that only it cared and cares for the "people", a euphemism for the Sephardi voter. It has "eschewed" terming critics traitors by proclaiming itself the "national camp."

In addition it has "abstained" from cheap demagogy by proclaiming that inflation is a Labour election trick, that Labour seeks unemployment, a Palestinian state, and power for its own sake.

Labour, thanks in good part to the use made of Mr. Begin's rather pathetic shadow, has not answered in kind. It has taken the high road.

The elections will show, therefore, not only who wins, but whether the Israeli voter is more responsive to the high road or the low. And that too, regrettably, is a disturbing question made acute by seven years of Likud tutelage.

Likud's Current, Former Security Platform Viewed

TA191051 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 Jul 84 p 3

[Party affairs correspondent Amnon Barzilay report]

[Text] There were only slight changes made in the security section of the Likud's election platform. This section was prepared by the chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, MK Eliyahu Ben-Elisar. Deleted from the platform are two clauses, one dealing with the Palestinian problem and how to solve it and a second concerning the battle against the Arab boycott.

The platform again talks about Israel's right to and demand for sovereignty over Judaea and Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. "When the time comes, Israel will raise its demand and act to achieve this." The platform says that "the autonomy agreement negotiated at Camp David is the guarantee that western Eretz Yisra'el will not be divided and that under no condition will a Palestinian state be established there."

Another clause omitted from the platform is clause No 5, which appeared in the last platform under the subsection "True Peace and Prevention of War — Our Main Objective."

In the previous platform this clause read: "The government will continue to take all necessary steps to prevent another war. Everyone remembers that 4 years ago [in the 1977 election campaign] the Alignment claimed that if the Likud forms a government "a war will break out immediately." Reality and the government's actions proved that this was completely misleading propaganda. The government prevented war and brought about the first peace treaty between Israel and the largest of the neighboring countries."

In place of the omitted clause there are two new clauses which deal with Syria, the war in Lebanon, and our relations with Lebanon. The fourth clause in subsection three reads: "Israel will continue to call on Syria to leave the path of war against Israel. Israel will invite all the Arab countries to sit down with it for direct negotiations in order to sign a peace treaty."

The sixth clause reads: "Israel will see to it that Lebanon will never again become a base for aggression against its territory and population. Israel has no territorial demands in Lebanon, but it will evacuate the IDF only on the condition that peace in the Galilee is guaranteed. Israel will seek ways to convince Lebanon and Lebanese leaders that their interest, as well as Israel's, demands that the two countries have good-neighborly relations and maintain peace. Israel will not get involved in Lebanon's internal affairs."

Poll Predicts SHAS Success, TAMI Failure

TA190628 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Jul 84 p 2

[Text] The Sephardi Tora Guardians, SHAS, will win three or more Knesset seats in the coming election, whereas the TAMI party of Aharon Abu-Hatzera may not win a single seat. These are the most startling conclusions of a comprehensive public opinion poll, conducted by the religious weekly, *EREV SHAB BAT*, to be published tomorrow. The poll included 5,570 respondents in 21 religious neighbourhoods and communities around the country.

SHAS leads the religious camp, closely followed by Rabbi Hayim Druckman's Morasha with three seats and Agudat Yisra'el also with three.

The National Religious Party will be reduced to two or three seats. The poll indicates that the total vote of the religious camp will be 12 to 13 seats, which is the same as in the 1981 election.

West Bank Trade Unions Support HADASH List

TA190417 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2255 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Nabulus, 18 Jul (ITIM) — Twenty trade unions in Judaea and Samaria today issued a manifesto in support of HADASH in anticipation of the elections to the 11th Knesset. In the manifesto, the unions emphasize that HADASH is the party closest to the Palestinian issue and the one that understands the distress of the Palestinians. The manifesto goes on to say that HADASH is the party that in the past raised the Palestinian issue and supported the establishment of a Palestinian state. The manifesto was published in RAKAH's Arab-language organ, *AL-ITIHAD*.

Pre-Election Settlement Drive Continues

TA190622 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Jul 84 p 1

[Joshua Brilliant report]

[Text] Yizhar — The Army yesterday turned this West Bank military outpost southeast of Nabulus over to civilian settlers in the second of three such ceremonies planned in the administered territories before election day. But a plan to dedicate another settlement south of here yesterday was quietly dropped as preparations were not completed.

Yesterday evening's ceremony brought to three the number of West Bank sites populated by civilians since Sunday. Haggay, south of Hebron is to be dedicated tomorrow, and the authorities are planning to top this wave next Sunday — election eve — with the dedication of three settlements in the Gaza Strip.

The National Religious Party is planning yet another ceremony at Pedu'el in Samaria on Sunday.

The group which took over Yizhar, on a hilltop southeast of Nabulus, was formed only one month ago. It comprises people who approached Gush Emunim's settlement movement Amana with requests to move to the West Bank.

But the settlers are in for difficult times. Only five families are to live there in the first stage, and more are scheduled to join only after additional buildings are brought in, the group's organizer said. There will be only a few job openings — for a secretary and a kindergarten teacher, for example — so most of the residents will have to travel elsewhere to work.

But Yizhar is far more developed than Giv'at Levona, north of Shilo. Early this week, a World Zionist Organization settlement department spokesman said a dedication ceremony would be held there yesterday, but the site was nowhere near ready in time.

Nevertheless, the overall impression from this week's settlement drive is that some fast work is being done to move civilians in by election day. At Adam, on Sunday, settlers who had waited for more than a year found the area prepared for them in a fortnight. At Asfar, yeshiva students who had waited for two years were told — after election day was set — that they would move in before July 23.

Court Sentences Convicted Jewish 'Terrorist'

TA190721 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0630 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Another verdict has been issued in connection with the Jewish terrorist organization. A few minutes ago the Jerusalem District Court sentenced Yehuda Kohen of Jerusalem to 1 and 1/2 years in prison; another 24 months were suspended. Our correspondent Alon Diskin reports from the court:

[Diskin — live] To repeat, the Jerusalem District Court judge, 'Ezra Hadaya, sentenced Yehuda Kohen, 25, of Jerusalem, to 18 months in jail; another 24 months was suspended for the duration of 3 years. In reading the verdict the judge said: I accept the regret expressed by Yehuda Kohen, and it must be seen as an extenuating factor. In issuing the sentence, the court must not act rashly, whether in regard to a severe or light sentence. It does not take many words to emphasize the serious nature of the actions.

As is well known, Yehuda Kohen was convicted of conspiring to commit a criminal act; on three occasions he engaged in reconnaissance on the Temple Mount in connection with the attempt to blow it up.

The judge said that the seriousness of the actions is evident. The purpose of the conspiracy — to blow up the Dome of the Rock —is shocking and threatens the public's safety.

This crime was committed out of extremist ideological motives and a belief in the justness of the act.

The judge said that the court must first and foremost protect the safety of the public and the public interest. He said that the court would be wrong if it gave the suspect a light sentence.

He said that the defense counsel went too far when he asked that the accused not be given a jail sentence. He added that he took all the circumstances of the case into consideration, and in spite of this he said he decided to give the accused a jail sentence of 18 months, and a 24-month suspended sentence for 3 years.

To repeat, Yehuda Kohen was convicted of conspiring to blow up the Dome of the Rock. He had previously been released on bail. In the court itself he stood and with complete calm listened as his sentence was read. His lawyer informed the court that he intends to appeal to the High Court of Justice over the gravity of the sentence.

'Terrorist' Sentenced to 30 Years Imprisonment

TA181354 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1250 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Today the military court in Lod handed down a sentence of 30 years imprisonment to (Rayda Hasim Qadwah), 28, a Lebanese resident. He was convicted of sabotage in an incident at the end of February 1984 in Jerusalem. According to the indictment, (Qadwah) intended to plant several hand grenades near the soldiers' pick up station at the exit from Jerusalem. he gave up this idea when he felt that the hand grenades were going to explode in his hands, and therefore he hurled them into a shop on Jaffa Road in Jerusalem. Twenty people were wounded by the explosion. Our correspondent Gil Ronen reports that (Qadwah) was also accused of membership in a forbidden group, Nayif Hawatimah's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Briefs

Malawi Envoy Presents Credentials — Malawi's new ambassador to Israel, Mr McLean Wanja Machinjili, presented his credentials to President Hayim Herzog today. Mr Machinjili is a non-resident ambassador whose base is in Nairobi, and is accredited, among others, also to Egypt and Uganda. It should be noted that it has been 10 years since an ambassador from Malawi last presented a letter of accreditation in Israel, and that over the past few years there was no active ambassador on its behalf. Israel's relations with Malawi have been fine and stable throughout the years, and observers regard today's ceremony as a sign of the "warming up" of relations between the two countries. [Text][Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1405 GMT 18 Jul 84 TA]

OAU Liberation Committee Delegation Visits SFRY

For TANJUG reportage of visit to Yugoslavia by a OAU Liberation Committee delegation, led by Dr Albert Picho Owiny, Ugandan minister of state for foreign affairs, see the Yugoslavia section of the 19 July Eastern Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Desert Encroachment Conference Opens in Dakar

AB181700 Dakar Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpt] The continental conference on desert encroachment began in Dakar this morning. The opening ceremony was chaired by Cheikh Cissoko, minister of environment. The meeting itself will begin this afternoon at 1500 with the examination of national cases in the western Sahel region. About 100 experts are meeting as of today at the [name indistinct] until 25 July to review the situation and make suggestions in preparation for the ministerrial meeting on 25 July which will be chaired by the president of the Republic, President Abdou Diouf.

ALGERIA

Mongolian Delegation Arrives; Belgian Minister Leaves

LD181957 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] As of today a parliamentary delegation from the Mongolian People's Republic is visiting our country at the invitation of the National People's Assembly. The delegation, which will remain in Algeria until 23 July, will have talks with members of the National People's Assembly and of the government.

The Belgian minister of economic affairs has left Algiers following a 4-day official visit. Mr Eyskens had a series of meetings with several of our ministers.

Finally, an FLN delegation led by Tahar Hanafi member of the permanent secretariat of the Central Committee, went this morning to Dakar at the invitation of the Senegalese Socialist Party, which is to hold its National Council session 19-26 July.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Indira Gandhi Message

LD191014 Tripoli JANA in English 0940 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Tripoli, Shawal 21, July 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution has received a message from the Indian Prime Minister Indira Ghandi, concerning the issues they had discussed during her recent visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Oppositionist on Al-Qadhdhafi's Terror Plans

PM181457 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 16 Jul 84 pp 1, 10

[Unattributed report: "Libyan Liberation Organization Secretary Warns Against Al-Qadhdhafi's Terrorism"]

[Excerpt] 'Abd al-Hamid al-Bakkush, Libyan Liberation Organization secretary general and former prime minister, has told *AL-AKHBAR* that he has received information that Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's regime is planning a series of executions at home, assassinations abroad, and terrorist acts mainly against the embassies and airline offices of Sudan and the United States.

Al-Bakkush said that Libya is currently recalling all its students abroad and that the people's bureaus in Europe and the United States are holding the passports of all students there and ordered these students to leave for Libya before Sunday, 15 July. The students will only get their passports at the airport.

He added that the declared purpose of the students' return to Libya is attendance of student conferences to be held there but the real aim is to trap and physically liquidate the elements opposed to the regime and those whose loyalty to the regime is suspect. Plans are also being drawn up for the assassination of those who refuse to return.

Front Condemns Al-Qadhdhafi Assassination Gangs

PM181509 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 13 Jul 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Libyan Opposition Denounces Al-Qadhdhafi Gangs' Pursuit and Assassination of Libyan Opposition Members"]

[Text] The National Front for the Salvation of Libya has condemned Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's pursuit of Libyans opposed to his regime abroad and the assassination of such Libyans by terrorist gangs sent by Al-Qadhdhafi for that purpose. The latest incident was the assassination of strugglers 'Abd al-Mun'im az-Zawi and Salih al-Firtas in Athens on 4 July.

In a statement issued yesterday, the Front said that this incident was a repetition of previous attempts of this kind when Al-Qadhdhafi dispatched his terrorist gangs to world capitals to assassinate people opposed to his regime.

The front emphasized that Al-Qadhdhafi's campaign at home and abroad will only increase the Libyan people's resistance and determination to stand fast against Al-Qadhdhafi's tyranny and coercion. It added that Al-Qadhdhafi's crimes will not go unpunished.

In its statement the Front also noted that Al-Qadhdhafi's agents have chosen Greece as the scene for their terrorist and criminal campaign against Libyans there. They have carried out a number of assassinations this year and in previous years in Greece and other world capitals causing worldwide criticism and condemnation of these crimes.

In conclusion the Front warned that Al-Qadhdhafi's terrorist campaign against Libyans abroad will extend to other European countries which, the front said, should take a firm stand against Al-Qadhdhafi's assassination squads.

Tripoli Claims Sudanese Official Joins Rebels

LD181427 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The Supreme Command of the Sudanese People Liberation Army has announced that (Dahul Ashuel), former deputy chairman of the Supreme Executive Council of the southern province in Juba, has joined the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement.

The Supreme Command of the Sudanese People Liberation Army, in a statement issued on the occasion, appealed to every Sudanese citizen, political or military or in any position, to immediately join the people's movement and army to liberate Sudan and to overthrow the bloody agent regime in Sudan.

MAURITANIA

AMP Reports Denial of Arrests of Pro-Libyans

AB181133 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The MAURITANIAN PRESS AGENCY [AMP] yesterday published the following communique:

The newspaper *AL-BAYANE*, organ of the Moroccan Communist Party, yesterday published an unfounded report that 350 people had been arrested in Mauritania. Such accusations [words indistinct] from the Moroccan press which has used and misused all kinds of defamatory processes to run down Mauritania (?as well as) the national leadership, are no longer surprising.

Faced with this denigration campaign, insults and provocations against our country from the Moroccan press, AMP, states we have always given proof of self-control and (?courage) to avoid the worst and also to not react to actions we consider contemptuous. However, in our anxiety only to establish the truth, we reject these fabrications published by the newspaper *AL-BAYANE*.

Also, AMP points out, no arrest has been made in Mauritania these past few days. It adds that contrary to the unfounded statements by *AL-BAYANE*, Mauritania had not up till now received any official notification of the closure of the Libyan Embassy in Nouakchott. The Libyan Embassy continues to carry out its normal activities, AMP says in conclusion.

France's Nucci Arrives for Cooperation Talks

AB180940 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the CMSN and head of state, yesterday afternoon received in audience Christian Nucci, French minister delegate to the Ministry of External Relations for Cooperation, who is paying an official visit to our country. Present at the meeting was Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, our minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

Christian Nucci arrived in Nouakchott yesterday afternoon and was welcomed on arrival by Lt Col Ould Minnih surrounded by his close associates, our ambassador to France, Ely Ould Allaf, the French ambassador to Mauritania, and many other personalities.

In a statement to the press on his arrival, Mr Nucci said he was in the country to discuss cooperation between France and Mauritania. He is accompanied on this visit by a delegation including [words indistinct].

The French minister held private talks with Lt Col Ahmed Ould Minnih shortly after his arrival.

SUDAN

Agreement To Build Oil Pipeline Signed

JN181919 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] An agreement was signed this morning between the Government of Sudan and the American-owned Trans-Africa Pipeline Company.

The agreement stipulates that the Sudanese Government agrees to allow the company to build a pipeline for transporting crude oil from the Red Sea coast, through Sudan's territory, and to its border with the Central African Republic.

The agreement was signed by Energy and Mining Minister Dr Sharif at-Tuhami, and Basil Tsakos, president of the African company.

After signing the agreement , At-Tuhami delivered a speech in which he pointed out that this pipeline, which will transport oil across Africa, is a strategic dream of the international oil trade. He explained that this pipeline makes it possible to transport the Gulf's oil to the Atlantic Ocean for export through a new proposed oil terminal near the city of Port Sudan, and then across Sudan's, the Central African Republic's, and Cameroon's territory to the port of Douala on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean.

At-Tuhami said that the pipeline will cost more than $10 billion, and transport up to 4 million barrels a day of crude oil. At-Tuhami added that the company will pay more than $60 million every year as crossing duties, and more than $100 million for local purchases and other services.

At-Tuhami said that Sudan will reap many benefits from the pipeline, such as the labor needed for building it. This will be in excess of 5000 employees, on average, during the construction period and 800 for the operational stage.

The company's president also delivered a speech in which he expressed his satisfaction at signing the agreement. He talked about the benefits to Sudan from the passage of the pipeline through its territory and pointed out that 50 percent of the pipeline lies inside Sudanese territory.

Work on the Trans-African oil pipeline which passes through Sudan's territory will begin in 1985 and end in 1987. The pipeline will transport oil from Yanbu' in Saudi Arabia [as received] to the proposed terminal in Sudan near Port Sudan. The pipeline will pass through the Red Sea hills until [words indistinct] the town of Shandi in the northern region. The pipeline, will then go south and pass near Omdurman, Al Abyad, and Al Muglad. Then it will cross the border to Central Africa and to the port of Douala on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean in Cameroon.

Numayri Addresses Sudanese on Coexistence

JN182105 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpts] 'Atbarah, 18 Jul (SUNA) — President Numayri addressed the nation this evening at a popular meeting held on

the occasion of his visit to the northern region. This visit is part of a tour to explain the aims of and motives for the Islamic alms tax law currently implemented to revive one of Islam's basic laws, the zakat.

The president stressed to the Christians, that Islam in Sudan means coexistence as brothers. He announced that he is extending his hand to them, and called to them to respond and cease all harmful acts and come forward for dialogue and talks in the interest of Sudan, Islam, and Christianity.

He announced that the revolution is seeking the people's interests. He said it has set up one organization, the SSU, as an arena for alliance, where disunity and partisanship has been prohibited. The revolution has not been limited to one person or group.

He added that the revolution has extended popular participation all over the homeland as called for by the religion of justice, and to open the horizons for all the Sudanese. This has been achieved by government through popular councils. There is also the regional government, the reduction of central power, and providing the masses with a chance to assume government positions.

The president said that we were the first to confront conflict, disunity, and blasphemy as our great Islamic religion has ordered and as the prophet of peace has preached. We have achieved equality among the people and removed the control of the few over them.

President Numayri said: I stress to the Christian brothers that we live as brothers.

He said: I am extending my hand to them to build and develop the homeland and I hope that they will cease having doubts in us, and come to us. We are prepared to negotiate with them in the interest of Sudan, Islam, and Christianity.

At-Tayyib Receives U.S. Envoy Vernon Walters

JN181433 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Jul (SUNA) — Retired Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, first vice president, this afternoon received Vernon Walters, U.S. President Ronald Reagan's personal envoy. Talks dealt with viewpoints on various subjects in the African arena, and issues of joint interest. Walters arrived in Sudan last night on a several day visit.

At-Tuhami Receives Walters

JN181508 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Energy and Mining Minister Dr Sharif at-Tuhami this morning received Vernon Walters, U.S. President Ronald Reagan's personal envoy. Talks centered on bilateral relations. The U.S. envoy stressed U.S. support for Sudan's energy projects, especially oil exploration and the construction of a pipeline, in addition to any other projects concerned with sources of energy.

Kuwaiti Paper Reports Abel Alier Memo to Numayri

GF171440 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 16 Jul 84 pp 1, 21

["Exclusive" report from London]

[Excerpt] Reliable sources here have informed *AS-SIYASAH* that a senior southern Sudanese official arrived in the British capital several days ago on an important visit. The sources added that Abel Alier, the Sudanese minister of construction andpublic works, arrived in London after presenting a memorandum to President Numayri on the recent developments in Sudan and the situation in southern Sudan in particular. The sources said that Abel Alier's memorandum to the Sudanese president also included a protest against the minority status given to the people of southern Sudan as a result of the recently enacted Islamic laws. The sources added that Alier, who was the Sudanese vice president 2 years ago, has criticized attempts to amend the Constitution to confirm the minority status of southerners in the country.

The sources said that the Sudanese official has informed Numayri that this amendment contradicts the Addis Ababa agreement of 1972, which stated that southerners and northerners are equal in rights and obligations. The sources added that the importance of Alier's memorandum lies in its legal character which has been formulated by this man, who is described as one of the prominent lawyers in Sudan.

The sources revealed that after presenting his memorandum the Sudanese official brought his family with him to London, which indicates that there are disagreements between him and President Numayri. However, the sources refused to confirm rumors that Alier has resigned and joined the southern opposition group. The sources also denied that Joseph Lagu, Sudanese second vice president, has also arrived in London, but they do not deny the possibility of his knowledge about Alier's memorandum and his arrival in the British capital.

The sources said that an extensive movement is currently being conducted by the Sudanese opposition southerners to draw up a joint strategy to confront the recent measures in Sudan.

WESTERN SAHARA

Saharan Communique Reports 5 Moroccans Killed

LD181308 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The Ministry of Information of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic announced in a military communique published today that five Moroccan soldiers were killed and seven others injured during an assault launched by a unit of the Saharan People's Liberation Army on 15 July against Moroccan positions at Mahbes Jneinat between the regions of Zag and Jdiria.

ETHIOPIA

USSR Deputy Defense Minister Continues Visit

Tesfaye, Petrov Speak at Dinner

EA181237 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Comrade Lieutenant General Tesfaye Gebre Kidan has said that the sincere help and moral support of the USSR from material assistance to the sacrifice of life to prevent our revolution from being overthrown, our independence from being violated, and unity from being disrupted at the time when our revolution was faced with great tension and was being tried by internal and external enemies through the coordination and guidance of imperialism, will always hold a high place and shrine in the annals of our history.

Comrade Lt Gen Tesfaye Gebre Kidan, PMAC [Provisional Military Administrative Council] Standing Committee member, minister of defense, and COPWE Executive Committee member, said this at a dinner party hosted yesterday at the Hilton Hotel in honor of Comrade Marshal Vasiliy Petrov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and Supreme Presidium [as heard], deputy defense minister, and hero of the USSR.

In his speech Comrade Lt Gen Tesfaye said that although Ethiopia and the USSR had a long history of relations, their friendship and solidarity was further strengthened after the emergence of our revolution. He added that, consequently, the social and revolutionary objectives being pursued by the two friendly countries had further brought them closer. Comrade Lt Gen Tesfaye said that the workers and revolutionaries of Ethiopia greatly admired the USSR's unreserved and resolute support for oppressed peoples denied of their freedom, and for total independence and respect for human rights.

He said that today international imperialism's aggression and [word indistinct] against peace-loving peoples and revolutionary countries has reached a very serious stage. He added that now was the time for the forces of peace to further strengthen their unity with the USSR, which stands for democracy and justice, to combat this situation.

For his part, Comrade Vasiliy Ivanovich Petrov said that although relations and friendship between Ethiopia and the USSR had a long history they were further strengthened after the coming of the Ethiopian revolution. He added that the struggle to wipe out the enemies of the Ethiopian revolution had opened the way for broadening and strengthening the cooperation between the two countries. Comrade Vasiliy Ivanovich Petrov expressed his happiness over the fact that he was able to make his visit at a time when the broad masses of Ethiopia were getting ready to colorfully celebrate the 10th anniversary of the revolution and were carrying out the exercise of forming the Workers Party of Ethiopia in all stages. He added that this exercise was a great example to countries following the democratic and socialist path. Comrade Vasiliy Ivanovich Petrov expressed his confidence that the struggle by the broad masses under the revolutionary leadership of Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam in the economic, political, and social fields would reach its goal. He added that this effort would enable the formation of a new society.

Present during the occasion were ministers, COPWE Central Committee members, force commanders, high ranking officers, and invited guests.

Meets With Eritrean Administrator

EA181937 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Comrade Marshal [of the Soviet Union] Vasiliy Petrov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and of the Supreme Soviet [as heard], deputy defense minister, and hero of the Soviet Union, held talks this afternoon with Comrade Major General Merid Negussie, principal administrator of Eritrea region, Commander in Chief of the Second Revolutionary Army, and COPWE Central Committee member.

Present during the talks, which were held at the headquarters of the Second Revolutionary Army in Asmera were Comrades Lieutenant General Tesfaye Gebre Kidan, Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMC] Standing Committee member, minister of defense, and COPWE Executive Committee member; Brigadier General Regassa Jima, deputy commander of the Second Revolutionary Army; and the delegation led by Comrade Vasiliy Petrov.

On arrival this morning at the Yohannes IV airport, Comrades Lieutenant General Tesfaye Gebre Kidan and Marshal Vasiliy Petrov were welcomed by Comrade Maj Gen Merid Negussie. Comrade Brigadier General Kumilachew Dejene, military commissar of Erit.ea region and COPWE Central Committee member; Comrade Lieutenant Colonel Shewarega Bihonegn, head of the Political Department of the Second Revolutionary Army and COPWE Central Committee candidate member; and other officials of the department were present during the welcoming ceremony.

Foreign Minister Returns From African Tour

EA191225 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] The foreign minister of Socialist Ethiopia returned home today after delivering special messages from Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, PMAC and COPWE chairman, commander-in-chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces, and current OAU chairman, to the heads of various northern, central, and west African countries.

When handing over the special messages from Comrade Chairman Mengistu, Comrade Goshu Wolde, foreign minister and COPWE Central Committee member, had an exchange of views with the leaders of the Ivory Coast, Congo, Gabon, Nigeria, Morocco, Algeria, and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah on current African issues and in particular on the problems of the Western Sahara and Chad.

On arrival in Addis Ababa the comrade minister noted that he had also held talks with the leader of Polisario and the French foreign minister on efforts to find a solution to these problems. Comrade Goshu added that he had briefed the leaders on the efforts being made by the current OAU chairman to resolve these problems and on his views of countries involved in these issues, and noted that on this occasion his mission was generally satisfactory. The comrade minister pointed out that during his mission he had also discussed bilateral relations with the respective leaders.

EPLF Attacks Government Forces, Kill 11

EA191102 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Around Asmara — Forces of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front and people's militia punished enemy forces which were advancing from (Karneshim) to (Resi Adi). In the 3-hour clash carried out the day before yesterday [17 July] from 0700 to 1000 in the morning, our fighters and militia killed 11 Dergue soldiers and wounded 16 others.

In another development, unity of the people's forces and the people's militia attacked enemy agents at (Endazmach Ekubit) in Seraye on 16 July. In the attack they captured six (?soldiers) and five rifles and returned safely to their stations.

KENYA

UK's Rifkind Holds Talks With Moi

EA190939 Nairobi KNA in English 0812 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Nairobi July 19 — President Daniel arap Moi this morning at state house Nairobi held talks with the visiting British minister of state for the foreign and commonwealth office, Mr Malcolm Rifkind. The talks touched on the bilateral relations between Kenya and Britain and various international issues. Kenya and Britain have had a long standing friendship which has strengthened the bonds linking the two countries in aid, technical co-operation, trade and diplomatic fields.

Present during the discussions were, among others, the minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale; his assistant minister, Mr Philip Leakey; the chief of protocol, Mr Denis Afande; a senior deputy secretary in the ministry, Mr Maluki; and the head of the Europe division, Mr Oded.

On the British side were the deputy high commissioner, Mr Simon Hemans; the first secretary, Mr Howard Pearce; and Mr Rifkind's private secretary, Mr Brian Donaldson.

Mr Rifkind, who is on a ten-day itinerary in Africa, leaves Kenya today for the Seychelles.

Meets With Foreign Minister

EA190957 Nairobi KNA in English 0832 GMT 19 July 84

[Text] Nairobi, Jul 19 — Kenya feels that the situation in South Africa can only be backed by security and stability when African states assure them of their stability, and Namibia will achieve independence on precondition according to the U.N. Resolution 435. [as received]

This view was expressed by the minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale, when he met the British minister of state in foreign and commonwealth office.

Mr Malcolm Rifkind held a 1-hour discussion with the minister on the situation in South Africa, Horn of Africa and bilateral matters between Kenya and Britain.

During the discussion, Mr Rifkind gave views regarding South Africa, and in particular the recent discussion held between British Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher and South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, during the latter's European tour.

Mr Rifkind extended an invitation from Sir Geoffrey Howe, British secretary for foreign and commonwealth affairs, to Mr Mwangale to discuss and exchange views of bilateral and global matters.

The meeting was attended by an assistant minister for foreign affairs, Professor Sumbi; senior deputy secretary, Dr Eliud Maluki; chief of protocol, Mr Dennis Afande; and other senior officials of the ministry.

Mr Rifkind was accompanied by deputy high commissioner in Kenya, Mr S.N.P. Hemans, and other senior embassy officials.

Embu Mayor Receives USSR Union Official

EA181736 Nairobi KNA in English 1416 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Embu, July 18 — Embu mayor, Councillor M. Kithinji, has today hailed the cordial relationship that exists between Kenya and the Soviet Union. The mayor said this when he received the secretary of the USSR Central Committee of Education and Scientific Workers Union [as received], Mr Viktor Berezin, at the town hall.

Mr Berezin, who is currently on a visit to Kenya, discussed matters of mutual interest between the two countries. The topics discussed included social facilities, such as education system, job opportunities and working conditions.

Present during the discussions were the deputy secretary general of KNUT [Kenya National Union of Teachers], Mr Willy Ndugo Baraka; the Embu branch executive secretary, Mr Alexander Njue Karihu; and the town clerk, Mr John Nyaga.

Mr Berezin was accompanied by the public relations officer of the union, Mr Vladimir Nosov.

SOMALIA

Mogadishu Deputy Mayor Reported Shot Dead

NC190925 Paris AFP in English 0914 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Nairobi, July 19 (AFP) — The deputy mayor of Mogadishu has been shot dead by a gunman in his office, the Somali opposition Radio Halgan (struggle) said quoting a report from the Somali capital.

The radio, monitored here, also said that a big explosion occurred at Mogadishu power station causing heavy damage to the building and electrical installations.

Earlier this month the radio, which is based in Ethiopia, reported an assassination attempt on the interior minister and a series of explosions in public buildings in the northwestern town of Hargeysa.

Meanwhile the official Somali Radio reported that the National Security Court in Mogadishu yesterday sentenced to death a man for murdering an Army lieutenant-colonel on July 12.

Hassan Mohamed Samatar is to be executed by firing squad for shooting Lt Col Dahir Siad Kulmiye in the chest at district Army headquarters, the official radio said.

Officials in Berbera Shot, Explosions in Hargeysa

EA182006 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Reports from Berbera say that the head of the customs department in Berbera and the deputy commander of the troops still loyal to Siad Barre of Berbera base were shot dead in their respective offices. The reports add that armed persons walked into the offices of these two idolators of Siad and shot them.

Other reports from the northwest region say that explosions in Hargeysa are continuing. Reports coming from Hargeysa say that residents heard several explosions and reports circulating in Hargeysa say that an explosion took place in Hargeysa international airport and in several other government offices in Hargeysa town.

CHAD

GUNT Ready for Preliminary Talks

NC191052 Paris AFP in English 1031 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Paris, July 19 (AFP) — The ousted Chadian Transitional National Union Government (GUNT), which still holds the northern half of the country, is ready to attend preliminary reconciliation talks proposed by the Ndjamena government, a GUNT spokesman said here today.

Abderrahman Moussa, representative in Paris of the Libyan-backed GUNT, said the GUNT had lifted all pre-conditions to a meeting with the Ndjamena regime of President Hissein Habre "if it can lead to a global solution to the Chadian crisis."

Mr Habre had suggested a preliminary meeting of "experts" before leaders of the two sides get together in Brazzaville in a new attempt to end the civil war in Chad. The last effort, in Addis Ababa in January, was a complete failure.

Mr Moussa said it was still out of the question for the GUNT to accept the Habre regime's stance that the talks would be between the legitimate (Ndjamena) government of Chad and its opposition.

CONGO

PRC Labor Minister To Visit Economic Facilities

AB182146 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Thanks to bilateral talks (?during our) visit, we are going to learn from the experience achieved by the Congolese Labor Party [PCT] in the safeguarding of national independence and the edification of the national economy so that Chinese-Congolese friendship will always be like the Congo and Yangtze Rivers which flow continually. These are the words used by the Chinese minister of labor and personnel, Comrade Zhao Shouyi, to express his happiness at the invitation from the PCT and the government to attend the inauguration of the Palace of Congresses and the deliberations of the third ordinary congress of the PCT.

Comrade Zhao Shouyi, who conveyed the best wishes of the CPC and the Chinese people to the Congolese people and to PCT members, devoted his time this morning to talks with Congolese Minister of Public Works and Construction Moundele-Ngollo. The Chinese statesman will lay a wreath at the Marien-Ngouabi Mausoleum this afternoon. He will then go to Ouesso in the Sanga Province, and later to Pointe Noire where he will visit a number of economic facilities.

ECOWAS Conference Begins in Lagos 18 Jul

AB181531 Lagos NAN in English 1520 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Lagos, July 18 (NAN) — The 13th session of the board of ECOWAS fund began in Lagos today with representatives from 13 of the 16 member countries attending. Ivory Coast, Liberia and Cape Verde were not represented at the opening.

The meeting, according to the agenda, is expected to discuss the level of implementation of the ECOWAS telecommunications project, the implementation of the fund headquarters construction project and the position of the loans granted by the fund. Other matters to be discussed include memoranda on interest rates applicable to loans, financial report, managing director's report and the adoption of the board of directors report.

Declaring the meeting open, the minister of national planning, Chief Michael Adigun, urged the participants to gear up efforts toward economic cooperation because of the world-wide recession, saying, "this is a very trying period for our sub-region."

He also urged them to "strive at all times to fulfill our obligations to ECOWAS in kind and cash."

The meeting ends tomorrow.

BENIN

Central Committee Ends Extraordinary Meeting

AB182055 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Final communique issued at the end of the extraordinary congress of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin]

[Text] The Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin [PRPB] held an extraordinary session in Cotonou on Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 July 1984 under the chairmanship of our great comrade in arms, Mathieu Kerekou, chairman of the Central Committee.

The session mainly dealt with:

1. The file on the difficult overall economic situation and

economic revival measures.

2. The aid plan for public and semi-public firms.

At the end of this meeting, the Central Committee of the PRPB took important decisions on public debt, [words indistinct] on the revival of public and semi-public firms on the revival of the national economy. In this framework, necessary directives will be given to various organs of our revolutionary state.

Ready for the revolution, the struggle continues!

Signed in Cotonou on 17 July 1984 by the Central Committee of the PRPB.

GHANA

Togo Radio Reports Fatal Weekend Clashes in Bawku

AB190700 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Clashes between two rival groups, the Mamprusi and the Kusasi, took place in Bawku in the extreme north of Ghana over the weekend. In 2 days of fighting, 24 persons were killed and 30 others seriously wounded. The GHANA NEWS AGENCY reports following the incident a dusk to dawn curfew was imposed.

The two groups have been quarrelling for a long time over the chieftaincy issue. Houses and cars were burned, and local authorities disclosed sophisticated arms were used by both sides. Army and police units were dispatched to restore order. The Ghanaian authorities urgently appealed to the two clans to show some restraint and attempt to find a solution to the problem. A curfew has been imposed on the region.

Rawlings Leaves For Nicaragua Anniversary Celebrations

AB182014 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpt] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] left Accra today on a visit to Nicaragua at the invitation of the Nicaraguan Government to take part in the fifth anniversary celebration of the Sandinista revolution.

He was accompanied by Dr Kwesi Botchway, PNDC secretary for finance and economic planning; Kofi Djin, secretary for interior; Colonel (Gamel), commander of the border guard, and other government officials.

GHANIAN TIMES Raps African Debate on Olympics

AB180905 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 18 Jul 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The *GHANAIAN TIMES* is opposed to two distinct things about the debate on whether or not Africa, or for that matter Ghana, is justified to participate in the coming Olympic games in Los Angeles. The paper sees the debate as a subtle attempt to make the issue a direct government responsibility and as a mischievous design to associate Ghana's bilateral relations with the United States and the United Kingdom with the problem. It points out that Ghana's relations with the United States and the United Kingdom have nothing to do with the case. The *TIMES* feels the matter has been locked in the hands of the Ghana National Olympic Committee. If the Supreme Council for Sports in Africa calls for an African boycott of the game, then the committee will have an obligation to withdraw Ghana's contingent. According to the paper, there should be a decision, if not a boycott, but the decision based on security fears which were placed before the International Olympic Committee and have been recognized by the committee as genuine fears. [sentence as

heard] In its opinion, if Africa should decide not to go to the games, it will be a matter of principle, which all those who genuinely support the cause of human rights must honestly accept.

NIGER

Chairman Kountche Returns From Visit to France

AB182150 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Chairman of the Supreme Military Council and Heads of State General Seyni Kountche returned to Niamey this afternoon following his private visit to Paris lasting several days. President Seyni Kountche was greeted on arrival by Chairman of the National Development Council Mamane Moumouni and by Chief of General Staff of the National Armed Forces Lieutenant Colonel Aibou.

NIGERIA

NAN Carries Third Part of Buhari Interview

AB181515 Lagos NAN in Engish 1450 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] [No dateline received] Recently, the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) interviewed the head of state, Major-General Muhammadu Buhari, on the problems of Chad, ECOWAS, OAU and Africa. In this third and last part, Major-General Buhari discusses Southern Africa, the OAU and the Lagos plan of action.

NAN: Do you see the recent signing of agreements between Angola and South Africa and between Mozambique and South Africa, as a positive or negative development? And why?

Gen Buhari: I definitely do not see the signing of agreements between Angola and Mozambique on one hand, and South Africa on the other, as positive developments. There is no doubt in my mind that the agreements signed by the two frontline states resulted from unbearable military, economic and political pressures from the racist regime in South Africa. Looking back at the antecedents of the leaders in Angola and Mozambique, it is inconceivable that they would want to stifle the on-going struggle for the liberation of Namibia and the destruction of apartheid. However, when a government is forced to decide between compromising with the enemy and the total socio-economic collapse of the country it governs, expediency takes precedence over principles. That is what, I believe, happened in Angola and Mozambique in the liberation of the oppressed people of southern Africa remains as strong as ever. [sentence as received]

What is called for, therefore, is the understanding, by all of us, of the circumstances which forced Angola and Mozambique to succumb to the pressures from Pretoria. Then we should evolve a new strategy to ensure that the struggle continues until Namibia is free and the obnoxious policy of apartheid destroyed.

NAN: Some people believe that, after 21 years, the charter and organization structure of the OAU have become outmoded and need to be reviewed to make them more responsive to the needs of Africa today. What is your opinion on this issue?

Gen Buhari: The assembly of heads of state and government of the OAU has already set up a charter review committee that has met on various occasions to consider suggestions and make recommendations to the assembly. Such suggestions include the establishment of a political and security council that would meet whenever conflict arises between member-states and offer immediate solutions, like cease-fire and mediation, to the state involved. It is not easy at present to summon the whole assembly of heads of state and government in case of such an emergency. The Commission on Mediation and Conciliation created under the present charter has fallen into disuse mostly because it lacks the political clout to influence member-states. The creation of a defence council that will take care of the peace-keeping role of the OAU is also being considered as well as problems associated with the admission of new members. So, you can see that the revision of the charter is already engaging the attention of the OAU leaders.

NAN: The Lagos plan of action was expected to bring about the harmonious and purposeful development of Africa, But, so far, it has remained a plan without action. What is responsible for the inaction, and what needs to be done to activate the plan?

Gen Buhari: The Lagos plan of action was only adopted here in Lagos three years ago. There is, therefore, the need for the relevant agencies like the Economic Commission for Africa [ECA] and the OAU to work out the modalities for implementing the actions proposed. In any event, the most important action is the recommendation calling for the creation of regional economic groupings that would be merged in the year 2000 into a continental economic community. Already, we have ECOWAS for the West African region and only last year, two existing rival custom unions in Central Africa merged to form the ten-member Economic Community of Central African States. However, you will agree that the creation of regional economic groupings is not something that can be implemented overnight all over the continent. In any event, with regard to other recommendations, the ECA, acting as the monitoring agency, has already set up the machinery to evaluate the plan's progress.

British, Western News Media 'Prejudice' Denounced

AB181355 Lagos International Service in English 0930 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Viewpoint]

[Text] For a long time now, the British news media and indeed the entire Western media have projected themselves as the only free media of mass communication. They have also sought to make the world believe that they are the most objective. It is in furtherance of this claim to righteousness that they came out with what is referred to as the full theories of the press by which the media system in a country is classified as either authoritarian, communist, liberation, or social responsibility press. Because freedom is a relative concept, the claim by the British and other Western news media to absolute freedom has been adjudged forthwith. As for objectivity, it has since been found that British

journalists completely ignore this virtue when it suits their prejudice.

In the reports about the kidnap attempt on the Nigerian fugitive, Umaru Dikko, and the diplomatic row precipitated by the Thatcher administration, the print and broadcast media in Britain demonstrated unmistakable subjectivity. They abandoned their pretensions to objectivity, truth, accuracy, fairness and shamelessly joined the smear campaign by the government against Nigeria.

Actually, the British mass media had carefully prepared the stage for the events of the last 2 weeks. As part of their mischievous plan, they had since January this year been giving generous air time and print space to Umaru Dikko and other Nigerian fugitives to launch attacks against their fatherland. It was, for instance, from the studios of the BBC that Umaru Dikko told the world of his plans to start what he called a jihad against Nigeria. Other treasonable utterances by Dikko and his ilk were equally publicized by the BBC and British newspapers. It was therefore not surprising when throughout the Dikko affair the mass media in Britain abandoned the ethics of the journalism profession and adopted a partisan and hostile stand against Nigeria. But the print and broadcast media in the United Kingdom not only put out commentaries in the name of news reports but also disseminated half-truths and other false reports. An example of the false reporting during the episode was the baseless allegation of maltreatment of the crew and passengers of the British Caledonian airliner detained in Lagos in response to the arrest by British authorities of the Nigerian aircraft and its crew. Another was the persistent British media accusation against the Nigerian Government of complicity in the kidnap attempt despite all evidence to the contrary. And in keeping with what is now a well-known British catch phrase of subjective journalism, "all the news that hits," the media in the United Kingdom deliberately ignored the demand by Nigeria for the return of the two British pilots who violated Nigerian airport security laws in May this year but similarly were silent over the barbaric treatment meted out to the crew of the Nigerian aircraft by British police and the demand for an apology made by the Nigerian Government.

It is clear from all these that the British news media were obviously affected in the reporting of the Dikko affair by their prejudice against the Nigerian Government.

New Decrees on Finance, Civil Service, Universities

AB190745 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Five new decrees have been promulgated by the Federal Government. The decrees are from Number 15 to Number 19. Under Decree No 15, entitled Appropriation Decree 1984; the accountant general of the federation may, when authorized to do so by warrant signed by the minister of finance, pay out of the consolidated revenue fund during the current financial year the sum specified by the warrant not exceeding 6,743,853,000 naira. Under Decree No 16, no civil proceeding shall lie or be instituted in any court for, or on account of, or in respect of any act such as dismissal, removal or compulsory withdrawal of certain persons from the civil service. If any such proceeding has been or is instituted before or after the commencement of Decree No 16, the proceeding shall abate, be discharged and made void.

Decree No 17, which deals with grants or forfeiture of retirement benefit relates to the ongoing retirements in the public service of persons falling between the categories set out in section 1 of the decree. Decree No 18 covers the establishment of the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies. Under Decree No 19, all private universities and similar institutions in existence in any part of Nigeria are abolished, and no such private university or similar institutions shall henceforth be established.

SENEGAL

Mobutu Idea for Black African League Rejected

AB181626 Dakar PANA in English 1527 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Dakar, 18 July (APS-SEN/PANA) — Senegal does not support the idea of the establishment of a "League of Black African States," declared the country's minister of information, Djibo Ka, on Tuesday.

Mr Ka was speaking to the press at the end of a session of the Senegalese Council of Ministers.

The concept of a "League of Black African States" was first mooted in June by [words indistinct] Mobutu Sese Seko in an interiew published in the Senegalese daily *LE SOLEIL*. Speaking as the official spokesman of the government, Mr Ka stressed Senegal's "deep attachment" to the Organisation of African Unity, adding that President Abdou Diouf "works ceaselessly for the consolidation of the OAU."

The president was "particularly anxious to see the unity of Africa and its peoples increasingly strengthened." For this reason, Mr Ka explained, Senegal could not support the proposed league.

Mr Ka also stressed Senegal's commitment to Afro-Arab cooperation, and reaffirmed Senegal's longstanding position towards the state of Israel, namely that "Senegal does not envisage the re-establishment of relations of any kind whatsoever with Israel."

Mr Ka indicated this position would be unchanging as long as Israel continued its illegal occupation of Arab territories, and as long as it refused to recognise the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to live in a state of their own on Palestinian soil, and under the leadership of their sole authentic representative, the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

He said that President Abdou Diouf had restated this position "based on clear principles" in the meeting of the Council of Ministers.

Mugabe Opens SADCC Conference in London

MB181900 Harare Domestic Service in English
1745 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The [Zimbabwean] prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, officially opened the Commonwealth-sponsored SADCC [Southern African Development Coordination Conference] conference in London today. He called on developed countries to redirect their investment programs from South Africa to SADCC, saying this would help to overthrow the evil system of apartheid. Comrade Mugabe strongly criticized some Western countries for allowing the South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, into their capitals during his recent European tour. He said after years of international isolation, the Pretoria regime now feels comforted and even encouraged to discover that its leaders are not only welcome as friends in Western capitals, but are given red carpet treatment.

The prime minister expressed the hope that the Botha visit would not lead Western governments into thinking that South Africa is now ready to work for genuine peace and meaningful change. He also expressed concern at the increase in protectionism by developed countries which, he said, are adversely affecting SADCC exports.

The conference, which [words indistinct] development in the SADCC region's progress and problems, will also be addressed by the minister of agriculture, Senator Denis Norman, Britain's Overseas Aid Minister, Mr Timothy Raison [title as heard], and Mr Peter Mmusi, the chairman of the SADCC Council of Ministers.

ANGOLA

ANGOP Sources Deny Summit Planned With RSA

MB190541 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the president of the Republic, will hold no meeting whatever with Pieter Botha, the South African prime minister, contrary to the information which has been reported by the Portuguese newspaper, *AFRICA JORNAL*.

A source contacted by ANGOP said that such a report was false and sensational, adding that the report was no more than pure fantasy and is part of the disinformation campaign which is being carried out by a certain media against the People's Republic of Angola and its revolution. This and other news reported from Lisbon is simply intended to create confusion, thereby serving the interests of the enemies of Angola, the same source said.

No such meeting has been planned, and the summit that the weekly newspaper is referring to is but a baseless rumor, it concluded.

UNITA To Contact Cabinda Liberation Group

MB190700 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] UNITA says its recent attack on an oil pipeline in the Cabinda enclave in northern Angola marks the beginning of the extension of its northern front in its campaign against the Angolan Government. Speaking in Paris, a UNITA representative said the attack, the first by the movement in the oil rich enclave separated from rest of Angola by a strip of Zairian territory, had been made by special forces using the Congo River. He said local people had supplied the boats used in the operation.

The representative also said that UNITA intended making contact with the Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave, FLEC, to find out who is leading its various factions and to determine their capacity to fight against the presence of Soviet advisers and Cuban troops in the area. UNITA considers Cabinda an integral part of Angola in spite of its physical separation. FLEC, on the other hand, wants independence for the enclave.

BOTSWANA

BNF Head Cites Plans for General Election

MB181410 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1125 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The secretary general of the Botswana National Front [BNF], Mr Mareledi Giddie, has said that his party will for the first time in the history of Botswana contest all 34 parliamentary seats in the coming general elections. Speaking in Selebi-Phikwe at a BNF political rally over the weekend, Mr Giddie said the BNF would be a force to reckon with during the elections. The BNF would emerge victorious, despite what Mr Giddie said was the Botswana Democratic Party [BDP] strategy of acquiring foreign aid to campaign for the elections. Mr Giddie said that the recent BDP primary elections proved unpopular to some old BDP officials and this was to the advantage of the BNF.

BPP Announces General Election Candidates

MB181414 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1125 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The Botswana People's Party [BPP] has announced the names of its parliamentary candidates for the forthcoming general elections. The president of the BPP, Dr Knight Maripe, is to contest the Sebia Gweta constituency. The party will contest eight other constituencies. In the northeast, Mr Kenneth Mkhwa will be its candidate; Ghanzi constituency will be contested by Mr Charles Peter; Selebi-Phikwe, Mr (Nelso Madjah); Gaborone South, Mr Victor Masole; Gaborone North, Mr (Christopher Mganulu); (Mkange), Mr (Simon Balule); (Tonota) will have as BPP candidate Mr (Bonulu Phone); and in Fransistown Mr Mosojane will be the BPP candidate for the constituency.

SADCC Chairman Leaves for London Meeting

MB181406 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1125 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The vice president and minister of finance and development planning, Mr Peter Mmusi, left Gaborone for London yesterday to attend a SADCC [Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference] conference organized by Commonwealth Institute. The conference in London is to start today and it will end on Friday. The aim of the conference will be to bring together experts from several European countries, plus ministers from SADCC, to discuss such issues as transport, food supplies, industrial investment, and the educational and information infrastructure of the region.

Minister Mmusi will be attending the meeting in his capacity as chairman of the SADCC Council of Ministers. Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe is to give a keynote address at the conference.

LESOTHO

Foreign Minister Pledges to Assist Refugees

MB181425 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The new resident representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] to Lesotho, Mr (Kulube Doherty), presented his letter of appointment to the honorable minister of foreign affairs, Mr E.R. Sekhonyana, this morning. Mr (Doherty), a Nigerian national, has replaced Mr (Andrew Setwiri), who left Lesotho for reassignment in Switzerland some weeks ago.

In welcoming the new UNHCR resident representative, Mr Sekhonyana pledged continued acceptance and assistance for genuine refugees, provided they were of good behavior and lived up to their conditions of asylum while they lived in Lesotho. He said that, as far as it is humanely possible, government would continue to give refugees an opportunity to be useful members of Lesotho society.

Mr (Doherty), on the other hand, conveyed to the foreign minister the continued interest of the UNHCR to pursue UNHCR activities in Lesotho in close cooperation with the government.

1983 Human Rights Act Takes Effect 18 July

MB181440 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The Human Rights Act of 1983 comes into effect today. According to the provisions of the act, every individual shall be entitled the enjoyment of the rights and freedoms recognized and guaranteed in the act and without distinction of any kind. Among other provisions of the act, the state shall guarantee the independence of the courts and allow the establishment and improvement of appropriate national institutions entrusted with the promotion and protection of the rights and freedoms guaranteed by the act. It also stipulates duties of individuals towards the family, the community, and the state, including respect for the national flag and the national anthem. The Human Rights Act of 1983 further guarantees freedom of expression, while respecting the rights or reputations of others and protecting national security, public order, and public health or morals. The act was adopted by the National Assembly last August to guarantee and safeguard the rights of individuals in Lesotho and ensure that the conduct of persons administering the laws of the country conformed with the provisions of the act, and for connected purposes.

MALAWI

Envoy to Israel Presents Credentials To Herzog

MB190501 Blantyre Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] REUTER reports from Jerusalem that the Malawi ambassador accredited to Israel today presented his credentials to the Israeli President, Mr Hayim Herzog, in what a Foreign Ministry official described as another stage in improving Israeli ties with Africa. The ambassador, Mr Machinjili, is based in Nairobi, Kenya. Israel and Malawi have long-standing links.

MOZAMBIQUE

Joint Security Commission With RSA Meets

MB190658 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0400 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] The Mozambique-South Africa Joint Security Commission yesterday assessed in Maputo the effective steps taken by both countries to fulfill of the objectives of the Nkomati Accord since it was signed 4 months ago. The commission concluded that as a whole a satisfactory situation has been reached. However, there is still a need to achieve more progress. Agreement was also reached on the composition of the standing subcomission on border issues, the establishment of which had been recommended by the commission during its fourth session, and approved by the governments of both countries. The meeting also discussed matters related to the protection of the Cahora Bassa power lines and maintenance staff.

Machel Sends Congratulations to Nicaragua Junta

MB190803 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0400 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] President Samora Machel has sent a message of congratulations to the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua on the occasion of yet another anniversary of the overthrow of the Anastasio Somoza regime. The message states that the commemoration of this historic event in the Americas and the world gains a greater importance at a time when the Republic of Nicaragua is victim to machinations by imperialism, which attempts to foil the freedom and security of the Nicaraguan people. Samora Machel hails the initiatives of the Sandinista Government in seeking negotiated solutions for the conflicts in coordination with other countries of the region.

3 Killed in Explosion at Military Headquarters

MB181724 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] A total of 3 people died and 15 were wounded as a result of an accident which recently took place at the Nampula Provincial Military Headquarters. The accident was caused by negligence on the part of a military man when weapons captured from the armed bandits in Nampula Province were being checked. The military man let a hand grenade slip from his hands and it caused various other war materiel to explode. The dead and wounded were all military men.

Some of the wounded have already been discharged from Nampula hospital, according to a report from our provincial station. The Nampula Provincial Military Headquarters building was partially damaged as a result of the accident.

Police Defuse 2 Explosive Devices in Maputo

MB190710 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Two explosive devices were detected on Monday at two vacant plots of land in the Polana area of Maputo. The Mozambican authorities were immediately alerted by the residents, who found the two devices to be suspicious. The authorities cordoned off the areas, neutralized the devices, and checked the plots of land. According to AIM, investigations are in progress to find the possible perpetrators of this criminal act.

The authorities have appealed to the residents to be vigilant and alert them immediately to this type of device. They particularly appealed to parents to enlighten children not to play with strange devices because their natural curiosity can be easily aroused by this kind of device.

MNR Claims 308 Government Soldiers Killed

PA190356 Paris AFP in English 0346 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Lisbon, Jul 19 (AFP) — The National Resistance Movement (MNR), which opposes the Mozambican Government, said here Wednesday night its guerrillas had killed 308 Mozambican soldiers, wounded about 100 and taken 32 prisoner in the first 10 days of July.

The MNR, which Tuesday claimed to have put 527 soldiers out of action, gave no information about its own losses.

According to the latest edition of *AFRICA JORNAL*, published here, MNR is deeply divided and looking for new support after South Africa officially said it would stop backing any movement hostile to Maputo as part of a peace accord concluded in March with President Samora Machel.

NAMIBIA

Paper Emphasizes Independence of Parties in MPC

MB181700 Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 13 Jul 84 p 6

[Editorial: "In Their Own Right"]

[Text] It has been said several times before: The member parties of the Multiparty Conference [MPC] are only bound by decisions taken jointly; otherwise each party retains its independence of ideas, policies, and the like. No member party within the MPC stopped being a political party in its own right on the day it entered into association with the MPC. It was never the idea to mix these parties into a kind of political stew.

That does not mean that these parties, or some of them, cannot in the future reach closer unity. But such was not the intention of the original initiative to form the MPC. The aim of the initiative was to bring the South-West African parties together for negotiations and discussions on the future of the territory.

There was only one reason for these future-oriented deliberations, namely to consider a democratic system for the future within which politics could be exercized in accordance with the democratic tradition. Thus, the parties now working together within the MPC may be opponents of each other in the future. But they would be opponents because they had jointly decided on freedom of opposition.

Against this background, the member parties of the MPC will have to decide for themselves where joint decisions end and open politics begins. That the member parties did not surrender their individual rights to exist is proved by the fact that they are still carrying out their own political activities. The most recent proof of this is the press statement released by the South-West African National Union [SWANU] regarding a number of issues — even issues relating to the MPC.

In certain respects this kind of public expression of views should be welcomed, as it indicates to the nation the thinking of various parties and the way in which argument is conducted. On the other hand, it may be that SWANU has stirred up certain issues best left for debate in the conference hall. In either case no harm has been done by exposing these issues. By that we mean that the MPC cannot be so petty as to allow the matters brought up by SWANU to cause an impasse. If SWANU has compromised itself by its statements, then SWANU and not the MPC will suffer embarrassment. And that is a risk every party and every politician takes.

The point is, the supporters of the individual parties must be made aware that the MPC has not buttoned the lips of any party over the normal conduct of politics. The MPC is intended to find a system in which politics can be conducted in freedom!

Editor Questioned Over Missing RSA Documents

MB181500 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The editor of the *WINDHOEK OBSERVER*, Hannes Smit, has been questioned by two security police officers from South Africa. According to a report in the *WINDHOEK ADVERTISER*, Smit was questioned in connection with documents that disappeared from the Department of Foreign Affairs in Cape Town. Smit says police warned him he might be called as a witness. The report says the *OBSERVER* recently published reports on a set of documents containing information about, in its words, certain organizations in southern Africa.

SWAPO Insurgents Kill 2 Security Force Members

MB181637 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] It is reported from Windhoek that two members of the security forces have been killed, an Ovambo civilian has been abducted, and two buses have been sabotaged in the north of South-West Africa/Namibia in the past 24 hours. A statement released by the security forces said that two members of their forces were killed and another seriously injured when SWAPO insurgents attacked a kraal in the Ovambo Okwanyama tribal area yesterday.

Another statement released by the Ovambo administration said that three SWAPO terrorists abducted an Ovambo civilian yesterday. The terrorists took the victim's vehicle and escaped with him, apparently to Angola. In another attack an explosion damaged two passenger buses of the Ovambo administration at the senior secondary school at Oshakati.

Landmine Explodes Near Ovambo Shop; No Injuries

MB190818 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0735 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Windhoek, July 19, SAPA — A Soviet-made POM-Z landmine exploded outside a Cuca shop in Ovambo, a SWA Territory Force spokesman said in Windhoek today. No one was injured in the blast, about 2 km north-west of Ondangwa at 2 pm yesterday. The SWATF spokesman said it was believed the mine had been laid for customers who used the shop.

SOUTH AFRICA

Delegation Arrives in Taipei for Economic Talks

MB181311 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] A South African Government mission led by the former minister of finance, Mr Owen Horwood, has arrived in Taipei on a 4-day visit to the Republic of China. The talks in Taiwan will mainly deal with economic cooperation. Mr Horwood will have discussions with the prime minister, Yu Kuo-hua [title as heard], his minister of finance, and other government officials. Officials in Taipei say the two sides are likely to review trade links between the two countries and renegotiate some agreements on South African exports to Taiwan, especially grain which has been seriously affected by prolonged drought.

ANC on Boycotting RSA Election 'Scheme'

EA181544 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Unattributed commentary: "The Last Session of the White Parliament Was a Non Event"]

[Text] Compatriots, last Friday the all-white and racist parliament in South Africa held its last session before the implementation of the much talked about fraudulent constitutional scheme — a scheme which provides for the establishment of the three racially segregated parliaments. The event was hailed by the facist propoganda media and the racist regime's allies abroad as an historic event that sets pace to the introduction of new reforms in South Africa. But as far as we are concerned, we the oppressed and democratic majority, the holding of the last session of the white parliament meant nothing positively significant for us. Nothing historically significant took place except that this was yet another significant step in the process of entrenching the criminal apartheid system. For we see no reforms coming with the introduction of the so-called new constitutional scheme.

From the very beginning our vanguard liberation movement, the ANC, and all democratic and progressive forces of our country have consistently exposed the fraudulent nature of the so-called new constitutional scheme. They have stated that the scheme is neither new nor does it envisage any meaningful reforms in the viciousness of the apartheid system. If anything, it is aimed at strengthening apartheid and white domination with the help of our so-called Coloured and Indian compatriots. It is particularly aimed at perpetuating the ruthless enslavement of the African majority, turning them into foreigners in the land of their birth and to crush the national liberation movement led by the vanguard, the ANC.

As our president, Comrade Oliver Tambo, declared in a recent call to our Coloured and Indian compatriots, the entire constitutional maneuver is an assault on the oppressed majority in our country and especially on the African population. Indeed how could we be expected to see last Friday's event as an historic development when the new constitutional scheme actually emphasizes some of the most genocidal programmes of the apartheid regime, such as the forceful removal of our people into the barren and drought stricken bantustans, the consolidation of the criminal bantustan system itself and when the [word indistinct] will continue undebated. The enforcement of [word indistinct] of our children will not be ended. The arrest, banning, and banishment of our compatriots and organizations will not be tampered with. Nor will our leaders be released from fascist jails.

How can we see the constitutional scheme as new or even reformatory when the fascist leaders are still declaring shamelessly that there will never be a one-man one-vote system in our country for all the peoples of this country irrespective of colour or race — that is while we, the African population in particular, are still doomed to remain hewers of wood and

drawers of water; when our place under the sun in our country of birth is still denied by this very constitutional scheme and when we are denied our fundamental human rights, the right to determine our future. The so-called new constitutional scheme does not even grant any meaningful freedoms of our Coloured and Indian compatriots, except that it is aimed at wooing them away from the ranks of the democratic majority and throwing them back as armed defenders of the satanic apartheid system.

Even under the new constitution they will still remain as second class and third class citizens who have no meaningful powers to tamper or introduce any reforms into the apartheid system. They can only be partners of the apartheid system, albeit junior partners. It is in this connection, countrymen, that our vanguard liberation movement, the ANC, has called on our Colured and Indian compatriots to boycott the coming bogus apartheid elections on 22 and 28 August. The ANC has called on us, the entire oppressed democratic majority, Africans included, to crush the August election by the vigor of our united struggle and through an intense campaign to expose the danger and treachery of the elections as well as reasserting our goal for a united, democratic and nonracial South Africa.

ANC has called on our Coloured and Indian compatriots to refuse to join the doomed apartheid system and to throw themselves into the fierce struggle to crush this criminal system and establish a democratic, nonracial South Africa based on our revolutionary document, the freedom charter. Down with the apartheid constitutional scheme; away with the bogus August elections; do not vote; do not; forward to a people's government!

SWAZILAND

ANC Official Accuses Swaziland of Torture

MB181353 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] The secretary general of the ANC of South Africa, Alfred Nzo, has accused the security forces in Swaziland of torturing ANC members and handing them over to the South African security forces. In a statement from the ANC office in the Zambian capital Lusaka, Mr Nzo said some ANC members had been paralyzed and others had become mentally deranged as a result of torture at the hands of the Swazi security forces. He asserted that 48 ANC members being held in Swaziland had gone on a hunger strike a week ago in protest against the treatment they were receiving. Mr Nzo went on to accuse the Swazi authorities of creating obstacles and difficulties to block efforts by the ANC and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to send the detainees to other countries.

Government Spokesman Denies Charges

MB181920 Mbabane Television Service in English 1815 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The office of the prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, has dismissed as blackmail ANC allegations that Swazi police were torturing its members in detention, and that some had apparently become mentally deranged. A spokesman for the prime minister's office said Swaziland was not aware of the allegations leveled at our police by the ANC's headquarters in Lusaka, Zambia.

The spokesman said that the Swazi Government had been told by the ANC leadership that it was looking for a third country resettle ANC refugees and cadres. He said that up until now the Swazi Government has not received further information from the ANC leadership in this direction.

Commenting on the allegations of torture, the spokesman said the Swazi Government regarded ANC members as its brothers and sisters, and it would continue to do so. To say they are being ill treated is totally unfounded, he said. He urged the ANC leadership to pursue the right channels of communication and desist from using the mass media to smear what he called the good name of Swaziland.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Tells DPRK Delegation of Missing Steel

MB190733 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Eight thousand tons of steel imported from North Korea for the construction of the National Institute for Planning and Management in Lusaka has gone missing between Lusaka and the port of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania. His excellency the president, Dr Kaunda, revealed this at State House last night when he received Korean architects for the institute to be located near the Natural Resources Development College. Dr Kaunda said the missing consignment was part of 116,000 tons of steel given to Zambia for the construction of the institute by North Korea.

Dr Kaunda thanked the North Korean Government for the gift, which he described as a great show of their love for the Zambian people. He described the plan to build an institute which is designed mainly to improve and provide in-service training for government officials as extraordinarily attractive. The institute will house 9 blocks to include a library, a VIP hostel for 12 people, and will also have sports facilities.

In reply, the Korean delegation hailed President Kaunda's continued contribution to the southern African liberation struggle, pointing out that the oppressed people of the region will triumph over the (?current) injustice.

ZIMBABWE

Minister Moves To Extend State of Emergency

MB181905 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The minister of home affairs, Comrade Simbi Mubako, says the government will continue its task against dissidents for as long as they threaten the security of the country. Speaking when he moved a motion in Parliament for the renewal of the state of emergency for another 6 months, Comrade Mubako said Zimbabwe is threatened with an unfavorable security situation, and it is the government's duty to protect the people and defend the country's hard won independence.

He said from September last year to June this year, dissidents had committed 45 murders, 37 rapes, and more than 230 armed robberies. In the same period, the dissidents stole private property worth more than 63,000 dollars. Comrade Mobako noted that most of the dissident activities have been concentrated in the north and south of Matabeleland and the Midlands areas. He said the dissidents appear to be carrying out some kind of vendetta against humanity by their acts of atrocities on innocent civilians.

Minister Blames UK Press

MB181958 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1932 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Harare July 18 SAPA — The Zimbabwe House of Assembly tonight adjourned its debate on the renewal of the state of emergency that has been in force since 1965 when Mr Ian Smith's Rhodesian Front government unilaterally declared its independence from Britain. The emergency is due to be extended for a further six months on July 26.

The renewal was moved by the minister of home affairs, Mr Simbi Mubako, who said that reports of widespread atrocities committed by Zimbabwean security forces against civilians were the result of an "orchestrated propaganda campaign" by the British Press. He said the campaign was "inspired by foreign agents of foreign newpapers who wish to continue their anti-ZANU propaganda which they have always preached."

He particularly attacked a local Roman Catholic priest, Father John Gough; the editor of the *OBSERVER* newspaper of London, Mr Donald Trelford; and a correspondent for the London *SUNDAY TIMES*, Mr Peter Godin.

Father Gough's most "bizarre outburst" was featured widely on the British Broadcasting Corporation and in the *SUNDAY TIMES*, Mr Mubako said. "The same media immediately portrayed Father Gough, himself an Englishman, as having been dedicated as a campaigner for human rights during the Smith regime. The truth which many Catholics, including myself, know is that the Reverend Father had until then never opened his mouth in support of African rights."

The "foreign press barons" did not have a conscience about the truth as long as a story helped to sell the paper and to malign the ZANU (PF) government. Mr Trelford, the minister said, had been given complete freedom to interview people in the curfew areas but chose instead to "write fiction from a city hotel." He had nearly got the sack for being so "hell-bent" on jumping on the anti-Zimbabwe bandwagon that he embarrassed his own bosses.

Mr Mubako said that despite all the predictions of doom there had been an upsurge of support for the government in what had once been dissident-affected areas. "Confidence has largely been restored and we want the legal powers to enable the security forces to keep on protecting the public," he said.

Army Safeguarding Road Link Through Mozambique

MB190729 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] A committee comprising the Zimbabwean Army and the Ministry of Transport, and the Governments of Mozambique and Malawi has been formed to try to overcome the problems on the Zimbabwe-Malawi road link, through the bandit-infested Tete Province of Mozambique. The minister of transport, Comrade Herbert Ushewokunze, told members of the Chartered Institute of Transport in Harare last night that the committee, which was formed last month, will monitor operations on a day-to-day basis, and attempt to remove all obstacles.

The route has been the scene of many ambushes on convoys by Mozambique National Resistance Movement bandits, resulting in the loss of human lives, goods, and property worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. He said since the Army was moved in, there had been a few attacks, which were repulsed. However, Comrade Ushewokunze expressed disappointment at the decrease of trucks on the route since the deployment of Army vehicles. He said transporters are in some cases providing unroadworthy vehicles, and that 30 percent of the trucks carry maize, and the rest goods which have no set tariff and are more profitable to them than maize.

Mugabe Address on Socialism

MB171152 Harare THE HERALD in English 10 Jul 84 pp 4, 5

[Text] The prime minister, Cde Mugabe, yesterday delivered the inaugural address to a series of lectures on "The Construction of Socialism in Zimbabwe," launched by the Zimbabwe Institute of Development Studies. This is the full text of his address, "An Overview of the Construction of Socialism in Zimbabwe".

At its inaugural congress of May 1964, ZANU unanimously adopted a constitution which had as one of its principles the establishment of socialism in Zimbabwe, in the event of Zanu assuming power in the country. However, at Chimoio, following the restructuring of the Central Committee in 1977, the restructured and extended Central Committee unanimously adopted scientific socialism, based on Marxist-Leninist principles, as its guiding philosophy for the transformation of our socioeconomic system.

Indeed, in 1980, our election manifesto clearly showed the ideological direction our policies would take in the event of an election victory coming our way.

In brief, my party and government have opted for socialism and not capitalism. It is on that basis that we seek to forge new social relations governing not only the members of our society but also that society and the natural resources which sustain it, as well as the modalities employed for their exploitation. But the question may legitimately be asked, why socialism and not capitalism?

Such a question necessarily invites one to examine and compare the qualitative worth of the two philosophies and thus begs for an evaluative answer.

The social ethic that bids us not only to live together but also binds us one to another in the given environment of our village, the district, the province or the state to which we belong, is also an equation of our humanity, for it relates us one unto another, and so as equals we relate to our land, to our trees and forests, to the birds and animals of those forests, to the vast pasturelands, to the mountain and hills, to the rocks and minerals, to the rivers and their fish, to the fountain springs and their cooling water, to our beetles, our bees, our caterpillars, crickets, grasshoppers, to all insects edible and nonedible.

These God-made or nature-made phenomena are ours together.

For anyone, therefore, to claim their ownership in the environment in which we are equals is to resort to a mode of self-aggrandisement, which is as much a vitiation of the social ethic of equality as it is a blatant usurpation of the right of others, and in that situation others who constitute the greater part of the whole.

It is as if the part had climbed the right to be the whole and the particular had supplanted the universal. Why should an individual or group of individuals claim the right of ownership of our natural resources to the exclusion or detriment of the rest of others?

I have often quoted the Bible, at Genesis I, perhaps to the chagrin of many Christians, in vindication of the right of man, every man (and women of course, for weren't we in the Garden of Eden together?) to the use and exploitation of natural resources — our God-given wealth. I find my views on this subject in very interesting coincidence with those of Mwalimu Julius Nyerere who says on "National Property":

"The second form of wealth — the rain and land — is simply God's gift to his living creation. There is no human effort involved in the rain we get. Both the idle and diligent workers receive equal amounts of it.

"Equally, there is no human effort involved in land. All human beings, be they children brought up in poor or rich families, or belonging to sinners or saints, or even those whose parents are either slaves or free men were born to find land in existence.

"They can neither add to it nor reduce its extent. It is God's gift, given to all His creation without discrimination."

Nyerere then proceeds to state that whenever a man "uses his intellect, his health and his ability to make anything, that thing becomes his property". (Julius K. Nyerere: Freedom and Unity (Uhuru na Umoja) — Selection from Writings and Speeches 1952-65 Dar es Salaam, OUP, 1966, p 53.)

Indeed, when an individual expends his own labour and energy in exploiting any natural resource at his disposal, provided others are also entitled alongside him to similar exploitation of that resource then the product of his labour must morally be his, and he is fully entitled to use such product to his own benefit or in any other manner of his choice.

On the basis of this moral reckoning, workers wherever they are engaged in productive activities or processes, are certainly entitled to the fruits of their labour.

But greater justice or equality can, however only prevail if the workers also become the owners — equal owner — of the means of production.

Socialism thus rests fundamentally on the principle of morality. It is a moral question first and foremost.

The difference between socialism and capitalism is therefore the difference between equality and inequality, between equity and inequity and between justice and injustice. Fundamentally, it is really the difference between morality and immorality.

To clarify our view of the two systems, the question may be posed whether it is fair that society should stand deprived of the ownership and control of its resources as that ownership and control vests in the hands of a few individuals.

Surely, our own political history, with the obnoxious system of land deprivation and concentration of resources in the hands of a racial minority very familiar to us, demonstrates vividly the injustices that attend the capitalist system.

The social ethic that constitutes the basic form of the morality of socialism rejects outright the concept of individualism that seeks to prosper at the expense of society.

To avoid situations of exploitation of man by man, socialism emphasises the collective nature of man and its philosophy, thus subordinates the interests of the individual to the common or general interests of society.

Society, in interacting with its environment for its own sustenance, becomes as much affected by it in its evolution and development as the environment itself is affected by society's own moulding and shaping of it in order to make it more responsive to man's ever-growing needs.

Socialism provides in that evolving process a valid social basis on which society can interact with nature to the best advantage of all its members so that the exploitative situation Fidel Castro described in his "Speech at the Meeting Commemorating the XXVTH Anniversary of the Attack on Moncada Barracks" is avoided.

"What makes today's people privileged in comparison to those of other periods is the fabulous possibility they have for controlling Nature and charting their own course of social development for the first time.

"This is precisely what makes some of the economic, social and political forms that still persist in many parts of the world such a great crime; it is what may give the will of the peoples and men's actions and struggles to change their lives their highest moral meaning and what gives the concept of revolution its fullest significance."

Fidel Castro, "Current Problems of Undeveloped Countries — Selection of Speeches" Oficina de Publicaciones del Consejo de Estado, La Habana, 1979, (p 176).

He then goes on to describe, in his characteristically vigorous and vivid manner, Cuba's colonial past which, although sounding more gruesome than our own, is certainly reminiscent of it:

"We also had our masters. Our Indian forebears even had their exterminators; our African fathers their slave owners: the descendants of both and of the masters, as well as their colonizers; the Cuban people, already constituted as a nation, their neo-colonizers; our workers and peasants, their exploiting capitalists and land-owners; our black population and our women, their discriminators; our children, their illiteracy, hunger and disease; our adults ignorance and unemployment; our old people, neglect and oblivion. Such were the injustices; and such, the struggles..."

Castro further goes on to say:

"It was the period, the objective conditions in society and in the world, that made us Marxist-Leninists, internationalists, socialists, communists."

It was, indeed, because of our own experiences in Zimbabwe under capitalism and the colonial system which it sustained that we came to realise the evils that go with the system.

It was also because of our full assessment of the virtues of scientific socialism as an opposite system to capitalism that we later decided to base our socialist philosophy on Marxist-Leninist principles.

Capitalism did not only plunder our land and other natural resources thus impoverishing our peasantry and making vast communities landless it also turned a substantial percentage of the population into a poor wage-worker class.

In our situation, therefore, the workers and peasants are the two classes of the community whose interests remain paramount in the furtherance of the cause of social justice and equity under our philosophy of socialism.

If the social ethic of the equality of man in relation to his environment and to the means he should employ in exploting it for his benefit is to have full expression in our own circumstances, then we must examine both the prevailing wage-worker situation and the condition of the peasantry.

For 90 years, as capitalism took various forms of manifestation through the emergence of commercial farming enterprises under the Land Apportionment Act 1930 or the Land Tenure Act of 1969, or through the establishment of manufacturing enterprises in the industrial sector or through the founding of several mining enterprises, new production relations, completely alien to the production relations of our traditional society, were created.

Not only was the new phenomenon of master-servant relationship now introduced, but also introduced as an aspect of the capitalist system was the complete ownership of land, manufacturing enterprises, and mineral and other resources, by a few people (whether these were individuals or companies) at the expense of not only those who provided their labour at these enterprises but of the whole African community once the collective owner of those resources.

At no time had our society agreed to sell to foreign captial or to the new usurping settlers the country's natural resources.

The new environment now meant that a wage-earner was to be subjected to a process under which his own labour would be creating what Karl Marx called "surplus value" to the advantage of the entrepreneur at his expense.

"The capitalist," says Marx, "does not produce a commodity for its own sake, nor for the sake of its use-value, or his personal consumption. The product in which the capitalist is really interested is not the palpable product itself, but the excess value of the product over the value of the capital consumed by it." (Karl Marx: Capital — A Critique of Political Economy, vol. 111, Progress Publishers, Moscow, 1959, p 41.)

The evil or immoral feature of the productions relations in such a situation is not that there is the element of surplus value or profit per se, but that the entrepreneur and the employees or workers are not equal — the one having the monopoly of the means of production and thus justifying his claim to the profits made.

Where correct production relations exist, then the worker is both owner of the means of production and owner of the surplus value earned from his labor. In those circumstances, he also becomes the earner of his profits. Surely, that is a more equitable, more morally sustainable, and more socially uplifting, situation than the former which is a selfish, exploitative and morally unjustifiable position.

I am sure we would now appreciate why in 1848 Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels in their "Manifesto of the Communist Party" put up the now famous slogan, "Workers of the World Unite. You have nothing to lose but your chains." Indeed, as long as Capitalism, thrives on profit and, of course, it cannot survive without it, the exploitation of the worker is bound to continue.

Whereas the worker, in the sense of a wage-earner in an industrial enterprise, is a new feature to our traditional society and whereas his misfortunes are those of a new situation superimposed on our old society, the plight of the peasant is in a way different.

In respect of the worker, a new environment was created for his exploitation. In the case of the peasant, the old environment had been diminished in inverse proportion to the rise in population. Where abundant land, arable and pasture, had previously existed, with thick forests, rivers, and other resources prevailing throughout the country, most land, and the most fertile for that matter, had been forcibly acquired.

The native reserves or tribal trust lands created now stood, in contradistinction to the new world of commercial farming enterprises, as economically depressed areas acting as a labour reservoir.

Thus on the one hand, you had land-rich commercial farmers, and on the other an impoverished and land-hungry peasantry. This disparity created its own antagonism.

These two were the most completely unacceptable socio-economic situations we inherited at the time of independence and on the basis of which other disparities, like those in respect of education, health and residential facilities, were based.

It is, therefore, these two principal situations, namely that of the exploited worker and that of the impoverished peasant, which must constitute the focus of our planning. Our initial plan, the Three-Year Transitional National Development (July 1982-June 1985), was our first attempt as a new Government, at a people-oriented programme of social transformation aimed at creating a new social order.

We state in Vol. I, para. 3.9. who of the plan [as published] that "throughout history it is the people who have constituted a dynamic motive force behind material, cultural and social development. The people are both the object of our socialist policies and the means with which we achieve those policies."

We proceed to elaborate on this aspect of the people-oriented nature of our social philosophy as follows:

"As long as the ownership of and control over the means of production continue to be in the hands of the privileged groups in society, the bulk of the people are destined to remain mere wage-earners to be exploited and manipulated at will by the bourgeoisie.

"It is therefore imperative that the people who constitute the revolutionary force which charted the course of our political history be fully liberated to chart once more the course of our economic history. It is they who must provide the motive force for change." (para. 3.9.).

What we mean here is that man in our society. But man in the collective sense of his togetherness with other members of his society, must be master of his destiny.

In the Democratic People's Republic is the basis of the chuche philosophy propounded by Kim Il-song. Muhammas al Missuru, in his book, Kim Il-songism, Theory and Practice, quotes Kim Il-song as follows:

"In a nutshell, the idea of chuche means that the masters of the revolution and the work of construction are the masses of the people and that they are also the motive force of the revolution and the work of construction.

"In other words, one is responsible for one's own destiny and one has also the capacity for hewing out one's own destiny." (p 19).

This whole principle of mass involvement in the process of socialist transformation runs thorugh the works of Kim Il-song. Indeed, Volume I of his major works is devoted to the illustration and elaboration of the chuche idea in the Korean Revolution.

The view that the people be active and collective participants in the socialist process is, indeed, echoed in every socialist country. Erich Honecker of the GDR in the "Report of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany to the 10th congress of the SED" states:

"In an unprecedented manner the great community of the socialist countries has made it clear that socialism, and socialism only, means material security.

"Everybody has access to the highest level of education. The right to recreation and appropriate health is concretely guaranteed. Uncertainty and anxiety about the future have lost their social roots. Under real socialism, people determine their own fate.

"Citizens have an increasing share in the management and planning of public affairs. Above all the young have clear prospects and ample opportunity to take an active part in shaping the present as well," (p 22).

In Yugoslavia, the phenomenon of mass involvement in the social process translates itself into the socialist principle of self-management propounded by J. Tito. In a biography entitled in the Path of Tito, Vilko Vinterhalter, the author, reveals what he calls "the correctness of Tito's thoughts" as contained in the "Programme of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia" which states the following about a commune:

"A commune is the basic politico-territorial organisation of self management of the working people and the basic socio-economic of the inhabitants of its territory.

"... As in a commune the working people are at the same time also producers, consumers, and the bearers of the efforts in the process of building up production force and the general material standard, a commune represents also the basic social community in which the individual and the collective interests are adjusted to each other..."

I am sure enough has now been said about the masses as a motive force on a socialist revolution.

But I thought our picture would not be complete unless one or two other references were made pertaining, firstly, to the situation in China and, secondly to that of the Soviet Union.

Even as far back as 1934, when the Red Army was locked in battle against the Guomindang, Mao Zedong, addressing the Second National Congress of Workers' and Peasants' Representatives in Jiangxi Province, had this to say:

"The principle governing our economic policy is to proceed with all essential work of economic reconstruction within our power and concentrate our economic resources on the war effort, and at the same time to improve the life of the people as much as possible, consolidate the worker-peasant alliance in the economic field, ensure proletarian leadership of the peasantry, and strive to secure leadership by the State sector of the economy over the private sector, thus creating the pre-requisites for our future advance of socialism."

(Mao Zedong: Selected Works, Vol. 1, Beijing, Foreign Languages Press, 1975, p 141.)

With reference to the role of the people in the revolutionary process, I distinguished above the working class and the peasantry as the two main classes of society which must receive our revolutionary focus. In the early days of attempts to consolidate the Russian Revolution, we discern this focus.

Lenin, referring to a party congress resolution which emphasised the unity of the workers, peasants and soldiers, as "the basis of the Russian Revolution", urged that that unity be a firm stand against "the bourgeoisie, or capitalists, and the landowners", (Lenin, Collected Works, Vol. 25 Moscow Progress Publishers, 1964, p 88).

The question now arises, how far the organisation of the workers and peasants, as full participants in the socialist revolutionary process in Zimbabwe, has taken place?

I must hasten to remark that a socialist revolution is not a one-day wonder.

True, the party I lead has adopted the philosophy of socialism based on Marxist-Leninist principles and thus has recognised the role of the workers in alliance with the peasants to lead the necessary revolution.

Every socialist revolution differs from another, not so much in its goals and qualitative content, but in the manner, mode, pace and time of its implementation, depending always on the concrete circumstances of the environment of its operation.

And even where a given development stage has been made, still the next stage must take into account the factors already prevailing. Read Todor Zhivkov's "Report of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party to the Twelfth Congress and the Forthcoming Tasks of the Party" (Sofia, March 31, 1981).

Having examined our economic situation in the light of the circumstances we have inherited, it became clear to us that a number of factors had first to be fulfilled if socialist transformation were to be launched with full force.

The following programmes thus became necessary:

The party had first to be well-organised structurally and qualitatively so that a high level of ideological consciousness would prevail within it.

The party has to remain in the vanguard of our revolution and give policy direction to the Government. A programme to develop party cadres with a high political and ideological level of education is under way.

The workers had also to be structurally organised into their trade unions and the unions into a single national trade union movement. At the same time, at all workplaces, workers' committees and works councils were to be established.

The education of the workers, so they could become more aware of their rights and conscious of their historical role, was to be undertaken by the trade union movement and at workplaces through their workers' committees. In the interests of the welfare of the workers, minimum wages had to be prescribed.

The peasants, on the other hand needed to be resettled and rehabilitated after the liberation war. At the same time, a start had to be made in organising those of them willing to be persuaded to form cooperatives,

Several of these cooperatives have been launched despite the immense problems they have had to face, which include lack of skills, lack of managerial and administrative ability, and lack of financial and capital imputs.

But these initial hurdles are being attended to and overcome.

The Government was to examine priority areas for the establishment of State enterprises as well as for state participation in existing enterprises across the economic sectors.

A good beginning has already been made and a faster pace will no doubt be followed in future.

In the area of social services, education, health and social welfare, an increese in facilities became an urgent priority as the Government adopted the policy of free education and free health service at given levels, while making secondary education accessible to all children. In this area some good work has been done.

May I, in conclusion, reiterate that only through socialism based on Marxist-Leninist principles can we achieve true social justice in our society.

May I also finally reemphasise that in the process of constructing socialism, the full involvement of the masses, as led by the alliance of workers and peasants in the vanguard leadership of the revolution, is absolutely necessary.

I equally would want to repeat that over the last 4 1/2 years, circumstances were far from ripe for a full-blooded revolutionary thrust, but that preparatory work has begun for the revolution to encompass a much broader area and assume a faster pace in the future.

But if the future is to see a greater pace in the unfolding of our socialist revolution, the party must assume its proper historical role by being accorded that place in our society in which "all economic and social organisations and institutions of the state" will, as Nicolae Ceausescu says, come "under its political control and act in a single manner for building the socialist system". (Nicolae Ceausescu, The growing leading role of the Romanian Communist Party in the present state, Bucharest, Meridiane Publishers, 1982, p 13.)

This situation is only possible when a one-party state democracy has been established.

May I once again thank you for the honour you have conferred on me by asking me to deliver this inaugural lecture.

Security Forces Kill 'Bandit', Seek 2 More

MB190713 Harare Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Police have announced that one of a gang of three bandits was shot and killed in a contact with the security forces near (Mbongo) kraal in (Canna) communal lands, Gokwe, yesterday. Security forces are tracking down the other two bandits.

FAO Regional Conference for Africa Continues in Harare

Higher Agricultural Productivity Urged

MB171717 Harare Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] Member states of the FAO have been reminded of the need for a strong political will to channel a greatly increased volume of resources to agriculture. This is contained in a paper presented to the 13th FAO regional conference for Africa currently in session in Harare.

The paper, entitled Monitoring the Implementation of the Agricultural Part of the Lagos Plan of Action, calls on African countries to carry through essential reorientation of social systems to apply policies that will induce higher levels of productivity. It stresses that the 5-year Lagos plan of action adopted in 1980, which is essentially a policy oriented framework, as an initial step calls on member states to set up specific annual goals and determine the manner in which the recommendations can be applied in the concrete positions of their respective countries.

The FAO paper places emphasis on national action in planning and execution. It suggests that the initial requirement is for every African government to recommit itself to formulating its policies and plans in line with the [words indistinct] chapter of the Lagos plan of action, priorities, and tasks. The paper further suggests that the responsibility of monitoring the implementation of food and agricultural plans at the national level must be attached to a monitoring unit with the necessary authority and technical [?content].

Price Increases Reveal Food Crisis

MB180656 Harare Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The officer in charge of the policy analysis division of FAO, Mr (Jan van Art), says the rapid increase in consumer food prices in tropical Africa in the past decade is one of the most revealing indicators of the seriousness of the food crisis in the region. He told the 13th FAO regional conference for Africa being held in Harare, that the increase in food prices occurred despite government attempts to stop it, especially in the urban areas.

He said several methods had been adopted to control consumer goods prices in various African countries. These included subsidization prices at which state controlled marketing organizations sold food crops to wholesalers, retailers, and processors. Another method, he said, was the fixing of actual maximum food product prices by government regulation.

More Resources in Agriculture Needed

MB181240 Harare Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The 13th FAO regional conference for Africa continues its deliberations in Harare today. One paper was presented this morning. According to the paper, African governments have been urged to increase the allocation of resources to agriculture, urgently required for raising food production in the traditional sector, and improving the services in rural areas. They have been called upon to encourage organization of rural people into purposeful self-reliance organizations for their effective participation in development and decision-making at all levels.

The paper also suggests that governments should encourage women's programs and coordinate action between government agencies to ensure women's participation in development activities. African governments should also provide and support the necessary structures and staff for inputs and services to the rural population for increasing agricultural production and improving their socioeconomic condition. They should further orient their policies towards the alleviation of rural poverty, as a national priority based on fixed time-bound targets in the national development plan.